

كذا من الأصل

A doctor's view of hospital crisis, page 16

Israel devalues and imposes drastic austerity measures

imposed drastic austerity measures on its people yesterday with a dangerous loss of gold reserves, caused mainly by the rapid war and the influx of Soviet Jews

Protest riot in Tel Aviv

he Brilliant Nov 10 7 per cent devaluation of the sheqel currency from 4.20 to 4.80 sheqels per pound... The Government's hesitancy was believed to have been due partly to disagreements with the Histadrut... Demonstrations of workers, outraged by the new prices, were held today in Tel Aviv, Haifa, Ashdod and Be'er Sheva.



Mr Michael Hodge, commercial secretary at the British High Commission in Kampala, arrives with his wife and children at Heathrow after expulsion from Uganda. Report, page 6.

End of sugar blockade frees 10m packets

The sugar crisis in the South-east is expected to ease today after the decision by workers at Tate and Lyle's refinery at Silvertown, east London, to call off their ban on distribution... The men were afraid that unless imports from the Commonwealth were safeguarded...

Tory support grows for leadership election

By Our Political Correspondent As Mr Heath prepares for his meeting with Conservative backbenchers on Thursday to discuss the reasons for the party's election defeat and to explain his ideas for future strategy, some Conservative MPs have decided to bring into the open their demand for a quick settlement of the leadership issue.

Inflation and unemployment main factors in crucial Budget

But in their impact on public expenditure Mr Healey's measures will be deflationary, and he can expect a sharp reaction from the left wing of the Labour Party, who will want to reassert their influence over the Government's economic policies... Mr Wilson has paved the way for a tough policy by insisting time and time again that the nation can expect no improvement in living standards for at least two years while the economic crisis is being tackled.

Mr Healey has given no hint that he had settled on such a scheme, which would bring immense difficulties to shopkeepers and commerce... The Confederation of British Industry has pressed for a £3,000 boost for company liquidity. That would clearly involve a considerable shift of resources and spending power from the personal sector and it is possible that a smaller figure has been considered desirable.

W sectarian murders raise the spectre of Ulster retaliation

Protestants fear that Ulster is entering its worst year since 1968... The IRA violence is being countered by sectarian murders... UPAG is a new and splinter group which is operating in Belfast...

Berlin judge shot dead in revenge killing

Berlin, Nov 10.—A West Berlin judge was shot dead in what police believe was an act of revenge for the death in prison of Herr Holger Meins, a leader of the Baader-Meinhof group of urban guerrillas... The President of West Berlin's highest court, Herr Guenther von Drenkmann, aged 64, was taken to hospital but was dead on arrival, police said.

'Lord Lucan' letter says he saw wife's attacker

By Clive Borrell Detectives looking for Lord Lucan after the murder of his children's nurse and an attack on his estranged wife in Belgrave, London, on Thursday have examined a letter presumed to have been sent by him to Mr William Shand-Kydd, his brother-in-law... The letter was posted to Mr Shand-Kydd's home in Bayswater after the murder had been discovered.

Dr Kissinger will visit Peking to allay fears on US-Soviet summit

Dr Kissinger is expected to fly to Peking immediately after the summit meeting between President Ford and Mr Brezhnev, the Soviet party leader, in Vladivostok on November 23. Reports in Washington yesterday suggested that the aim of the visit would be to brief the Chinese leaders on the summit and allay suspicions about such a meeting being held in disputed territory only 40 miles from the Soviet-Chinese border.

State may buy up motor cycle firm

Mr Dennis Poore, chairman of Norton Villiers Triumph, has had discussions with Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, on the possible takeover of NVT by the Government. As a result of Mr Benn's sturdy reception at the company's Small Heath factory on Friday, which he put forward his plans for the Meriden workers' cooperative, the minister is urgently considering buying out the entire NVT operation.

Ulster legal crisis

Pressures on the Northern Ireland legal profession and administration of justice are constantly increasing as the system struggles to cope with a massive backlog of cases. Yet an official report recommending realistic, practicable reforms has been ready for almost a year and still has no publication date. No official reason has been given for the delay. The reforms would greatly speed legal work.

Bangladesh hope

After months of news of disaster in Bangladesh, the autumn rice crop is at last bringing hope to the country's hungry. Already the market price of rice has fallen in anticipation of the harvest and the Government is planning to close down its 5,700 emergency food centres by the middle of this month.

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A reflection of good taste Blue Nun from SICHEL right through the meal.

HOME NEWS

Northern Ireland's legal crisis worsens as a report with a possible solution gathers dust

From Marcel Berlios Legal Correspondent Belfast

The number of judges trying terrorist offences in Northern Ireland is being increased from today in an attempt to reduce growing delays...

which they know the ordinary man will have to accept. In addition, solicitors and barristers are under great pressure because of the huge increase in work...

At the beginning of this year a committee headed by Lord Justice Goff was set up to examine the structure and work of the county courts in Northern Ireland...

There are only eight judges at the level of High Court and above. Apart from trying all the serious "no jury" terrorist cases...

Compensation payments for property damaged through terrorism or rioting is one of the few improved parts of the system.

Mr. David Mitchell, the member for Basingstoke who was parliamentary private secretary to Sir Keith Joseph in the last Conservative government...

Mr. Mitchell said he thought that was the right course for Mr Heath to take because only about half of the Tory MPs who elected him as leader nine years ago were still in Parliament...

Speaking at Oxford, Mr Patrick Wall, MP for Halesowen, who is a right winger, called for a quick settlement of the leadership crisis.

Since the start of the troubles nearly 100,000 claims have been made and more than £84m has been paid out.

But at least people whose property is damaged are getting compensation more quickly. The opposite is true of people maimed or injured by terrorism or violence.

It has paid some £10m to 10,000 injured people, widows and dependants of people killed. But there are still some 7,000 claims outstanding...

That is not always the fault of the department. Often the necessary medical reports take time to obtain or the injuries cannot be accurately assessed within a short period.

In an attempt to rationalize the compensation system, the property damage and personal injury departments are to be partially amalgamated from early next year.

Justice in Northern Ireland is under tremendous strain, and in the circumstances it has withdrawn it bravely. But in many fields pressures are increasing faster than the ability of the system to cope with them.

A well known lawyer and former Northern Ireland politician summed up the issue. "The politicians at Westminster are preoccupied with the politics of the situation. This is not enough. It is necessary, both in the short and long term, to try to retain a stable substructure of normality, so that society does not crumble altogether."

The legal system is one part of that sub-structure. The politicians stand accused of neglecting all but the obvious superficialities of the Northern Ireland situation.

Murders raise new terror fear

Continued from page 1 he came to the door the men opened fire with a sub-machine-gun, wounding him in the abdomen and legs. They drove off and the man was taken to hospital for an emergency operation.

The latest of the Catholic victims was named by police yesterday as Mr John McQuitty, aged 40, who was shot as he watched television at home near Springfield Road late on Saturday.

Earlier two masked gunmen shot two Catholics in a garage on the road to Belfast airport. The men, Mr Patrick Courtney and Mr William Tierney, were repairing a lorry when the gunmen drove up, fired at killing the men, they fired at Mr Courtney's four-year-old daughter, sitting in a car. The bullet missed this girl, who was found later in a state of severe shock.

A letter requesting outside help for a mass breakout by the 165 Provisional IRA prisoners on remand in the Crumlin Road jail was intercepted by warders at the weekend as attempts were being made to smuggle it out of the prison.

London march: Sinn Fein supporters last night marched from Speaker George Byde Park, to the Prime Minister's Westminister house in memory of Hugh Coney, the Maze prison detainee shot while escaping last week (The Press Association reports).

Belfast festival, Diary, page 14



Mr Thorpe, Mr Heath and Mr Wilson taking part in the Remembrance Day service at the Cenotaph yesterday.

Security men watch at the Cenotaph

While the bands of the Brigade of Guards and the Royal Marines provided the pomp and circumstance for the annual Remembrance Day service at the Cenotaph in Whitehall yesterday, Mr Jack Bryan, coxswain of the lifeboat at Gorleston, Norfolk, cast wreaths on the sea in memory of those who died at sea in the two world wars.

Throughout the land men and women wearing poppies paid homage to those who died in defence of the country.

The Queen led the nation in honouring the dead at the Cenotaph and she was accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh and the Prince of Wales. Bright sunshine attracted unusually large crowds and there were strict security precautions. Policemen and plain-clothes officers kept observation from rooftops.

Other wreaths were placed by Mr Wilson, Mr Heath, Mr Thorpe, other national and Commonwealth leaders and service chiefs.

Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips attended the service at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. Later three thousand National Front supporters paraded at the Cenotaph, where they laid a wreath, and then marched to Lincoln's Inn Fields for a meeting.

Electrical fault suspected after 8 die in fire

By Michael Horsnell

Senior fire officers sifting through the gutted wreck of a transport hotel in Islington, north London, in which eight people died early yesterday said the victims had no chance of escape.

The fire, which started in the basement, swept up the two staircases and cut off the escape of many of the 20 residents.

Police said first indications were that an electrical fault caused the blaze, the second in recent years.

The 12-room Bray's Transport Hotel in Liverpool Road, Islington, had been registered by its owner, Mr George Baker, with the Greater London Council two months ago under the Fire Precautions Act, 1971. Mr Baker had been asked to submit plans of the hotel before a visit by fire chiefs.

and the other three were pronounced dead on arrival at the Royal Northern Hospital, where an official said all the dead had been overcome by the smoke.

Most of the residents were Irish, though there were some Scots and English. All were permanent guests. Mr Baker, who was being cared for by relatives at his home near by, said later: "I am very upset. I looked after them and knew some of them well."

He added: "There were fire ladders, fire doors and about 30 fire extinguishers. I saw smoke coming out of the top of the roof, but the flames seemed to be coming from the basement."

Mr Jeremiah O'Shea, aged 41, a building labourer, who had been staying at the hotel for six months, said: "I was sleeping in the basement when I heard a cracking noise at about 1 o'clock and then all of a sudden I saw flames come out of the partition between the room and the storeroom next to me. I tried to get out one way, but I was driven back by the smoke. In the end I managed to get out round the back."

Child dies: Alan Keens, aged 18 months died in a fire at his parents' home in Hallow Moor, Leeds yesterday (The Press Association reports).

Historic market destroyed. The market hall at Birkenhead an outstanding example of early-Victorian civic architecture, has been destroyed in the town's worst fire since the war.

Drivers in North-east accept £6.5 pay rise

About 1,000 lorry drivers North-east England agree Newcastle yesterday to a new rate set to give heavy vehicle drivers a top basic of £40 a week.

They agreed to wait December for the deal, it is similar to the recent So settlement to give 100 men a week. About 5,000 men of an average rise of about a week.

About 70 Co-operative S drivers who make deliveries shops on the borders of Cumberland, Durham and Yorkshire decided to take official strike action from morning.

They rejected an appeal wait for the result of a meeting in London. Mr Lumley has told 150 men public works projects seriously held up because in council offices through country have been urged their union not to coo with any local authority...

Kirk is to end talks with Episcopal church

From Our Correspondent Edinburgh

The Church of Scotland have decided to withdraw from talks with the Episcopal Church in Scotland since it was learned yesterday.

The Kirk said in Edinburgh that the panel will not attend the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland next May in mission to discontinue the discussions. Regret at the decision has been expressed by sides.

Talks between the Church of Scotland and the United Church, the Congregationalists and the Methodists and the Episcopians will continue.

Lord Hailsham fears left-wing dictatorship government

Continued from page 1

50 peers, area chairmen and full-time officials. Most Conservative MPs disagree with this proposal.

Mr David Mitchell, the member for Basingstoke who was parliamentary private secretary to Sir Keith Joseph in the last Conservative government, said on Saturday that Mr Heath should put himself forward for reelection. "No one has got a foothold on the leadership of the party for life," he said.

Mr Mitchell said he thought that was the right course for Mr Heath to take because only about half of the Tory MPs who elected him as leader nine years ago were still in Parliament. He declined to say whether he would support Sir Keith for the leadership if he decided to challenge Mr Heath.

Angus Maude, MP for Stratford-on-Avon, attacked the "liberal trendiness" of the Conservative Party and criticized the speech made recently by Mr Peter Walker, shadow Minister of Defence, which put the case for continuing with the policies advocated by Mr Heath at the election.

Mr Maude said that Mr Walker was a good and imaginative minister but his incoherent speech suggested that he ought to avoid political analysis and philosophy.

"So far from the Conservative Party being in danger of leaning too far in the direction of appeasing the middle classes, it went down to defeat last February precisely because it lost a million or more middle-class votes to the Liberals, without any compensating appeal to manual workers," Mr Maude said, commenting on a theme of Mr Walker's speech.

Union executive in London on Saturday, said that people voted for the picture they formed of the things that parties and statesmen stood for, and the kind of persons they were.

"In recent years the party has been forgetting this fact, or, where it has thought it was remembering it, has confused it with what is called a television image," he said.

But politics is not the art of advertising things. No should a political leader be a sort of disc jockey, selected for his patter or his sex appeal. Politics is about the life and death of a nation.

Lord Hailsham also gave a warning that the Government could well become a left-wing dictatorship or collapse within weeks. "We are living under a Government which has bought power by promises it cannot fulfil, by preaching optimism it did not feel, by dividing the wage-earner against the middle-class, by prescribing remedies which can already be seen to aggravate the disease. It cannot last."

Saying that a divided party was a heaten party, he went on: "Sooner than we think, we may find ourselves called upon to form a government or to enter a national government."

"As crime rises, the rule of law is being undermined, encouraged by the Clay Cross decision to let a face a budget which may well be still more inflationary. In the next month we can look forward to nothing but strikes, shortages, bomb outrages, unemployment and price increases."

"The Government will last in its present form, weeks or months it may be, but it will not last beyond the party's collapse."

He added: "May the opportunity, when it comes, be prepared, a united party coherent policy and public ready to discharge the best of its duty."

Lord Hailsham forecast British politics would swing towards a Scandinavian-style coalition, the party's sense and unity could assured. "That would mean one government, with Labour manly in power, a number of relatively mutually hostile bodies being permanently in opposition because they were unable to provide an alternative government."

With that situation come corruption. It certainly lead to "some oppressiveness that one government creates", he said.



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Some socialists anti-Europe by habit, Mr Amery says

By Our Political Staff

Defending Britain's membership of the EEC, Mr Julian Amery, Conservative MP for Brighton, Pavilion, said on Saturday that the Marxists in Britain were against Europe because they saw the end of their habit of buying off their left wing by paying Danageld in foreign affairs, not only in Africa, Chile or wherever Soviet propaganda strikes up an agitation."

"Most of those I might call 'Social Democrats' in the Labour Party are for Europe," Mr Amery said. "But some are against it out of habit, the habit of trying to buy off their left wing by paying Danageld in foreign affairs, not only in Africa, Chile or wherever Soviet propaganda strikes up an agitation."

The communist states had a rooted objection to the EEC, seeing it as a potential new superpower blocking the westward expansion of their influence.

Mr Amery thought the Conservative opponents of British membership of the EEC greatly exaggerated the danger to British sovereignty and undermined the opportunity of increasing Britain's influence.

The Government is to deliver a sharp reminder to employers that they must introduce equal pay for women by December 29 next year.

Starting this month, the Department of Employment will stage a major year-long publicity campaign, with advertisements in national and local newspapers and specialist journals, and will distribute thousands of copies of a booklet.

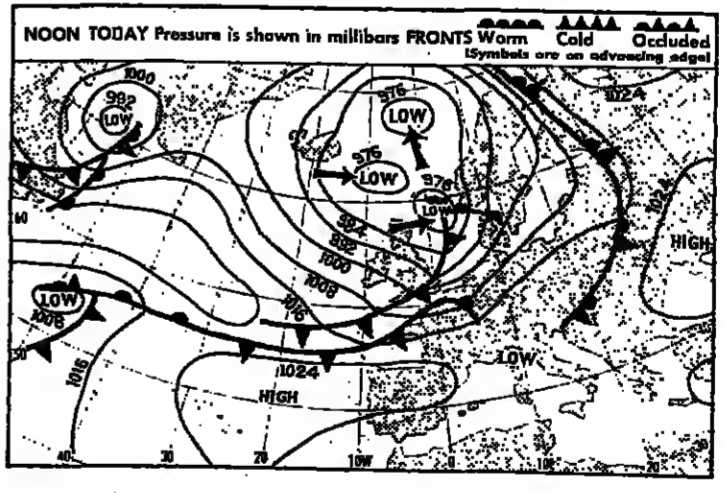
Euthanasia man gets warning

By Our Political Staff

Mr George Mair, a retired surgeon, who last week publicly admitted practising euthanasia, was told yesterday that if the police failed to prosecute him for murder there would be a private prosecution.

An unnamed London doctor told Mr Mair in a BBC Radio discussion that he would personally prosecute. He said that two elderly women had refused to go into hospital because they feared being killed there.

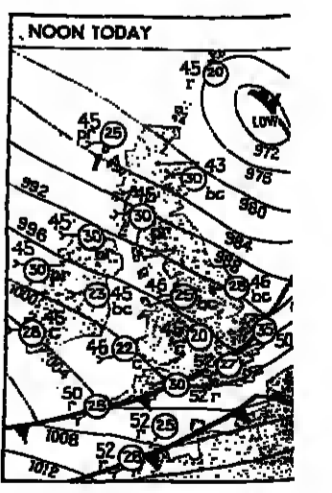
Weather forecast and recordings



NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded Symbols are as indicated adjacent

Today Sun rises: 7.11 am Sun sets: 4.18 pm Moon rises: 4.3 am Moon sets: 2.42 pm New Moon: November 14. Lighting up: 4.48 pm to 6.43 am. High water: London Bridge, 11.15 am, 6.8m (22.2ft); 11.53 pm, 7.0m (22.1ft). Avonmouth, 4.41 am, (21.1ft). Dover, 5.4 pm, 12.8m (41.8ft). Lowest, 2.24 am, 6.4m (21.1ft). 9.3 am, 6.4m (21.1ft). Hull, 3.12 am, 6.9m (22.8ft); 3.56 pm, 6.5m (21.5ft). Liverpool, 8.49 am, 8.3m (27.1ft); 9.5 pm, 8.5m (27.8ft).

Table with weather reports for various cities including London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and others, listing temperature, wind, and other weather conditions.

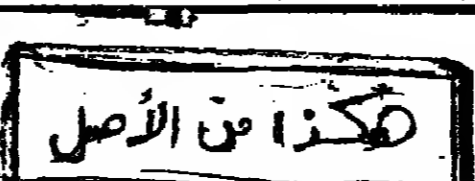


NOON TODAY Outlook for tomorrow and Tuesday: Suony intervals showers tomorrow but most showers will be in N and W. A general rain is expected to spread to most areas during Wednesday. Temperatures near normal.

Sea passes: North Sea, S of Dover, English Channel (E) George's Channel, Irish Sea: V SW, veering NW, severe gales, baps storms or first; sea rough.

Saturday London: Temp: max 6 am 1 pm, 14°C (57°F); min 6 pm 5 am, 9°C (48°F). Humidity 65%. Wind: W, 24 hr to 6 pm, 1 pm, 0.09 in. Sun, 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.0084 millibars, rising.

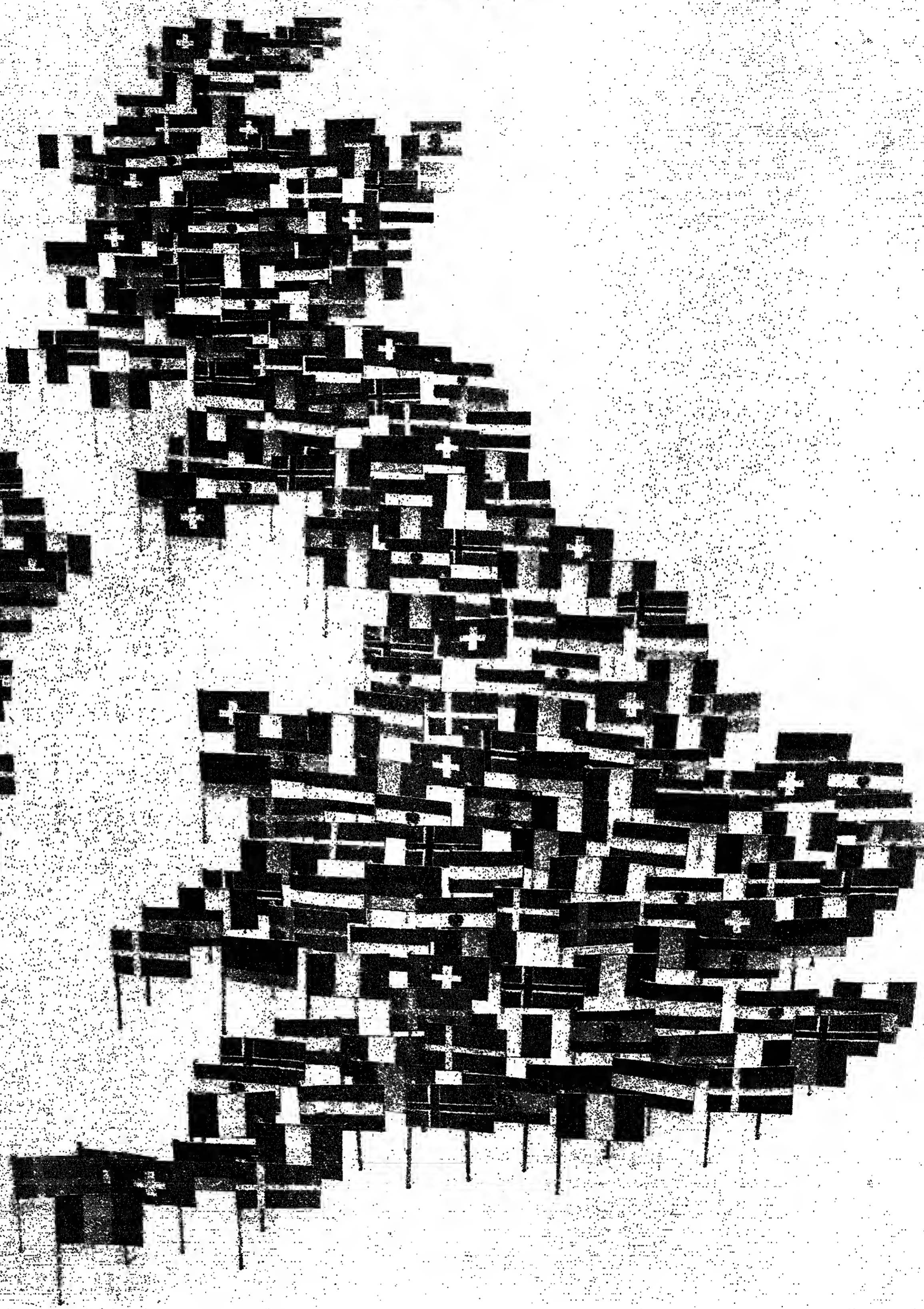
Yesterday London: Temp: max 6 am 1 pm, 11°C (52°F); min 6 pm 5 am, 7°C (45°F). Humidity 61%. Wind: W, 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.0084 millibars, rising.



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HOME NEWS

Three Services will keep own ministers in the defence review

By Henry Stanhope Defence Correspondent

The three Services will retain their own junior ministers and service boards under the defence review which is being completed at the Ministry of Defence.

After careful consideration, it has been decided to leave this part of the defence establishment untouched for fear of damaging Service morale at what is likely to be a difficult time.

Mr Mason, Secretary of State for Defence, is expected to take a long cool look at the organization of the ministry after the cuts ordered by the defence review have been absorbed.

Some across-the-board responsibilities have been given to the three Service parliamentary under-secretaries at the ministry. But it has been decided that any more moves in that direction would be bad at this time.

A question mark hung over the future of the junior ministers for the Royal Navy, the Army and the RAF throughout the six years of the previous Labour Administration.

First, the controversial Gershy committee, and later the Headquarters Organization Committee, recommended that they should be abolished. The

Headquarters Organization Committee proposed that they should be replaced by two new ministers with functional responsibilities covering all three Services.

The proposal was forestalled by the 1974 general election which brought in the Conservative Government, which was pledged to provide a period of stability for the Services after the dramatic changes under Mr Healey.

Mr Mason is said to have a full appreciation of the value each Service places on having its own minister in the Government.

Important decisions affecting the country's defence are made through the central organization because of changes introduced since 1963, when Mr Thorneycroft abolished the old independent Service ministries, the War Office, the Admiralty and the Air Ministry.

Several senior civil servants have felt for some time that other cost-saving measures could be introduced, including the integration of some senior service posts and even the introduction of a tri-service promotion structure for ranks above major general.

The Government is unlikely to consider anything so novel, at least not until the defence review is behind them.

Consultants want pay review body abolished

By John Roper Medical Reporter

Differences in the medical profession emerged yesterday with increased pressure for the resignation of Lord Halsbury, chairman of the Review Body on Doctors' and Dentists' Pay, which is considering an 18 per cent interim pay claim for the whole profession.

The British Medical Association and the Hospital Consultants and Specialists' Association, are still united on the issue of a new consultants' contract and opposition to phasing out of pay bands. But while the BMA is calling only for the resignation of Lord Halsbury, the HCSA council, meeting yesterday, agreed to press for the abolition of the review body.

Mr John Ridel, secretary of the HCSA, which represents 5,000 hospital consultants, said: "We want to discuss pay directly with the Department of Health." The association, he said, would not take any action either about the interim pay award or the proposed new consultants' contract until the Owen working party had reported in three weeks' time.

The Central Committee for Hospital Medical Services (CCHMS), an autonomous committee of the BMA which represents all hospital consultants, expressed no confidence in Lord Halsbury as an independent chairman at a meeting on Saturday.

In their view he had failed to repudiate a statement attributed to him in an interview published in Pulse, a journal for doctors, which many thought indicated that he had decided on the interim claim, possibly in the light of the social contract bearing the professions' evidence.

He was reported as saying that the review body would be foolish to recommend any government to break its own laws or violate its own policy.

It was reported as saying that he had not taken any decision. But correspondence between him and the BMA has not cleared up the matter and the General Medical Services Committee, which represents 20,000 family doctors, has expressed no confidence in him.

Evidence on the doctors' interim claim was completed at the middle of September. Partly because the review body had stated that but for Phase 3, the last award of pay had been 7 per cent more, doctors expected that the body's recommendations might be given to the Prime Minister fairly quickly. But the review body is investigating in detail the pay of the eight professions (apart from medicine, which includes radiographers and physiotherapists, and the doctors' may have to wait until the end of the year.

The CCHMS has endorsed the action of its representatives in paying back the consultants' pay secretary, Dr Derek Stevenson, yesterday that the decision was unanimous to give the Government only three weeks to agree a choice of contracts which would ensure the continued independence of hospital consultants.

Mr Ridel said that the HCSA did not want any contract sent to the review body for pricing. They would also insist on a new timetable for the phasing out



Gennadi Rozhdestvensky, the Russian conductor, rehearsing the London Symphony Orchestra for last night's Festival Hall concert dedicated to David Oistrakh, the Soviet violinist.

Miners chief disputes figures on absence

From Ronald Kershaw Northern Industrial Correspondent

Mr Arthur Scargill, the main leader of Yorkshire miners, yesterday accused National Coal Board and Norman Siddall, deputy chairman of the board of using a leading absenteeism figure to strengthen the board's case for a production incentive scheme. A pithead ballot on the scheme will be held this week.

Mr Siddall had said on Saturday that absenteeism was increasing and was costing the board millions of tons in production. He said that in 40 per cent of coal-walkers at some pits did not work on Monday and Friday. Yorkshire, which had the most shouting, had the worst attendance record.

Many of the men who absent produced medical certificates. If absenteeism could be reduced by one per cent, it would go up by several millions, he added.

Mr Scargill told a rally at Barnsley yesterday only about 3 per cent of a total of 100,000 miners were genuine cases of sickness or injury resulting from working conditions.

He said that Mr Siddall several other senior coal members had been unscrupulous attacks on miners. The idea of this attack simply is to provide a platform to try to convince miners to vote against union and for the coal's divisive productivity deal which will not wash with the miners. We shall not be kidded, miners will vote decisively against the coal board's deal, he said.

Mr Siddall had pointed out that while one might expect a man with a runny nose to work in an office, one could expect him to work underground.

Bowling fraternity triumph over the bulldozer

From John Chatteris Hale, Cheshire

The crown-green bowling fraternity of the North, and in particular a tenacious group who play the noble and ancient game on the green at the Old Bleeding Wolf Hotel at Hale, were celebrating a notable victory yesterday against the onward march of bulldozers.

It is even whispered that the Prince of Wales may have helped to save a quarter-acre of cherished turf from conversion into a car park.

A year-long fight to save the green ended in success at a meeting of Trafford council's planning committee late on Thursday night, when approval was given to a modified scheme which will preserve two thirds of the stretch of grass.

A petition with more than 8,000 signatures was presented in support of the scheme and 30 bowlers crowded into the public gallery of the committee room and burst into spontaneous applause when the chairman, Councillor Herbert Pryor, in announcing approval, said: "Bowling greens are part of the English way of life which should be maintained, and I am saying that as a Scotsman."

The saga of the Old Bleeding Wolf's green began in the summer of last year when notices were posted in this "village suburb" of Manchester to the effect that Whitebreads intended to make it a car park.

Crown-green bowlers throughout the North rose in protest against what they saw as a classic example of an ever-increasing trend. The northern game bears little relationship to what is regarded in these parts as a cissy southern variation played on flat grass and in straight lines largely by middle-aged and elderly persons wearing blazers and Panama hats.

There are an estimated 50,000 members of crown-green clubs attached to public houses between Coventry and the Scottish border, and the game can become tough.

Whitebreads' northern subsidiary saw the move a year ago and put in an alternative scheme which would preserve two thirds of the green. Then the old Hale district council invoked a recommendation by Cheshire County Council on parking space at new public houses, rejected the alternative scheme and approved the original plan, which meant total destruction of the grass and the club. The turf was due to be ripped up last week by contractors who were already on the site.

When all seemed to be lost last summer Mrs Gill Evans, wife of a leading club member and one of the few women allowed on the ballowed turf, started writing the first of 200 letters, to members of the new Select Committee on Leisure, to the Ombudsman, to the minister responsible for sport, to the chairman of Whitebreads in London, and, almost as a last resort, to the Prince of Wales, whose maiden speech to the Lords referred to the preservation of opportunities for sport and leisure.

Prince Charles is also the 32nd Earl of Chester and the Old Bleeding Wolf is named after the first earl, Hugh Lupus (in some historians' opinion the second earl) who was nicknamed the Bloody Wolf because of his enthusiasm in enforcing the rule of his uncle, William the Conqueror, in the county.

Mrs Evans received a formal reply from her side to the Prince saying that the matter was being investigated but emphasizing that his Royal Highness could not become personally involved in such matters.

Nevertheless, 10 days after receiving that reply and a simultaneous one from Mr F. O. A. G. Bennett, the chairman of Whitebreads, she was told by Trafford council that the brewery was resubmitting its alternative plan, involving only partial destruction of the bowling green, to the new authority.

Teams of Bleeding Wolf conservationists then went to work again raising the petition and lobbying councillors. They collected rather more signatures than were raised recently for the preservation of a local hospital. During a celebration which bore a marked similarity to an episode from *Whisky Galore* or *Passport to Pimlico*, Mrs Evans said: "I do not suppose we shall ever know whether my letter in some historians' opinion the second earl) who was nicknamed the Bloody Wolf because of his enthusiasm in enforcing the rule of his uncle, William the Conqueror, in the county.

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No big expansion in remand centres

By a Staff Reporter

Mr Jenkins, the Home Secretary, has told probation officers that it would be unrealistic to expect dramatic progress in the provision of special remand facilities for juvenile offenders.

In a letter replying to a call by the National Association of Probation Officers for more resources to be devoted to probation and after-care, Mr Jenkins says this is one of the areas being considered in the light of decisions shortly to be announced by the Government on future levels of public expenditure.

He says he fully shares the association's concern about the increasing number of juvenile offenders being committed to adult prisons. While he intended to phase out such remains as soon as the local authority system had developed the necessary secure facilities, he admitted that progress had been slower than the Government and local authorities would have wished.

The association described Mr Jenkins's statement on juvenile remand centres as "most disappointing" and added: "We believe that placing juvenile offenders in adult prisons serves to confirm them in criminality at a very early age."

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Schools may be disrupted if budget is cut back

By David Hencke of The Times Higher Education Supplement

The prospect of extending the disruption of universities and polytechnics to secondary schools next term was considered at a conference organized by the National Union of Students in London at the weekend.

Mr Alistair Stewart, deputy president of the NUS, proposed a national campaign to disrupt the education service if the Government cut back education spending in tomorrow's Budget.

The conference, called to discuss previous education cuts of £12m, reacted strongly to the speech by Mr Prentice, Secretary of State for Education, on Friday. Mr Prentice had given a warning that education would

Families broken by strain of autistic children

By Mrs Medical Reporter

Families with autistic children break down because there are too few places where the children can be educated, the National Society for Autistic Children says in a report published today.

Because of the strains some marriages had broken up and mothers had lived in fear that the marriage was in constant jeopardy. Mothers also worried about neglecting their other children because of the demands made by an autistic child.

Case histories in the report depict the seriousness of the difficulties. Mothers wrote about continuous yelling for hours, children who were unable to sleep for days, and who kicked and bit their parents. Some autistic children had no idea of safety and would dance suddenly into moving traffic.

But parents were convinced that the children benefited from specialized education and that more places would help to overcome their difficulties. They also wanted more practical help in the home and contacts with people who could advise and listen when the strains became too much.

An autistic child in the Family (National Society for Autistic Children, 1a Golders Green Road, London, NW11, 1Sp).

The London borough of Newham heads the list of authorities which are recognized to have difficult schools to "stress areas". More than half the borough's teachers (1,173) in 69 of the 120 schools qualify for the "award". Two other London boroughs (Brent and Haringey) count equal second and Waltham Forest is also in the top 10.

The total cost of the package introduced earlier this year by Mr Prentice, Secretary of State for Education and Science, who is MP for Newham, North-east, is £10.8m. Negotiations between the teachers' unions and their employers on the Burnham Committee now bow to appropriation the money are only now drawing to a close and a provisional list is being circulated. Teachers in special schools will also receive extra payments but they are still being negotiated.

The London borough of Barking would almost certainly have come near the top of the list but the borough's education committee decided that either all the teachers should receive the pay increase or none, as it considered all the schools were "stress schools".

Newham is 65 teachers short and seven of its 16 secondary schools are on part time, affecting about 6,500 pupils, who are being sent home for part of the week.

Nearly 11,000 teachers in Inner London, 3,000 teachers in Birmingham, 2,000 in Manchester, and nearly 2,500 in

More pay for teachers in 'stress area' schools

By Tim Devlin Education Correspondent

More than 46,000 teachers in 3,000 schools with exceptional difficulties are shortly to be awarded pay rises of £200 or £275 a year, according to whether they have stayed more than three years in the school where they teach.

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Staff fight meat agency merger

A plan by the Meat and Livestock Commission, a government agency concerned with livestock improvement and marketing, to merge its Welsh division with the west Midlands for reasons of "efficiency" is being opposed by Welsh staff.

"We believe we are the best people to deal with the special problems of Wales", one member of the staff said.

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By Mrs Medical Reporter

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Mull fears new regional authority will be too remote

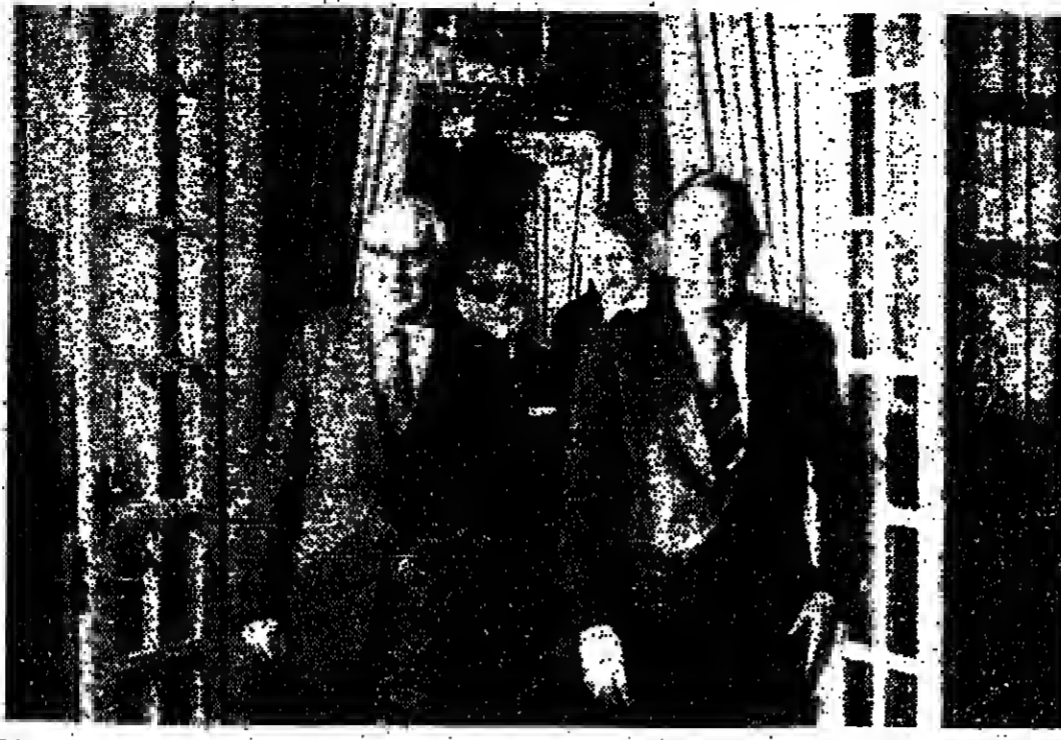
With the air of a Jonah about to meet his whale, Tobermory wants to be swallowed by Strathclyde. The apocalyptic gulp will happen next May, when the Strathclyde region becomes a formidable reality.

The boundary was drawn with a flourish that enclosed 2,578,314 people, or half the population of Scotland. It is a huge acreage of land from the islands

WEST EUROPE
Giscard appeases
Gaullists with
Colombey pilgrimage

Charles Hargrove
Nov 10
President Giscard d'Estaing, riding over backwards, the outbreak of the affair, to smooth ruffled feathers and demonstrate his attachment to some of the intangible dogma of Gaullist doctrine.
In his dive in the nuclear line Le Terrible on 17, he told a press conference "France must have mobile military capacity pending to its importance modern state."
Next day, M Soufflet, the Minister, introducing military budget in the Assembly, emphasized European defence and union went hand in hand but that the latter was off. The changes introduced in the budget, which from the President's inauguration of defence policy, "do not with the continuity of defence policy," he said.
M Giscard d'Estaing flew to Colombey-les-Bains on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the former president's death, a tribute to General de Gaulle in the name of the people whom I represent to express the gratitude of the French people for independence, and whose words have been hallowed wounds of the Gaullists.
The French military and the demonstration of "Atlantism" in the ranks of the Government.
Giscard d'Estaing was met at Colombey by General de Gaulle's son-in-law who is a member of the staff of the French forces. He laid a wreath of lilies and red roses on a large white marble grave.

stone and stood in silent prayer, bare head and without an overcoat in the biting cold for a few minutes before setting off for Paris again.
About 300 people had gathered behind barriers in the small square facing the church. They cheered the President when he cried "betrayal" "hypocrites" and "it is not his place here today" arose from the crowd. The President walked past apparently unmoved.
A man was detained afterwards by the police for an identity check. He said he was chairman of a young Gaullist association in the Ardennes, and after being released he returned to the general's grave and wept. "We came here to pray to his memory and not to make a scandal," he said.
There were about 1,500 people in Colombey today on pilgrimage, including a number of former ministers and delegates from different parts of the country. After stopping at the graveside they went on to the huge pink granite memorial cross on the top of a hill, dominating the austere landscape shrouded in rain and mist.
M Alexandre Sanguinetti, the secretary-general of the Gaullist party, said yesterday in Lyons that M Giscard d'Estaing's visit to Colombey was "an important, moving tribute". He described the President as continuing General de Gaulle's work, "in spite of the changes" introduced by M Giscard d'Estaing, mentioning his interest in nuclear submarines and his proposed visit to the strategic missile base in Provence.
He said of the Gaullists: "We are the strongest in the parliamentary majority, and whatever the grumbles of some of us, to which they are entitled, we shall not leave this majority, and there is no question of our joining the opposition." However, M Sanguinetti is thought by the more orthodox Gaullists to be a more orthodox Gaullist to be accepting the changes introduced by M Giscard d'Estaing too unquestioningly and readily.



Mr Callaghan calls on Herr Genscher, West German Foreign Minister (right) at Gymnich castle.

Paris reassures Bonn on summit

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris Nov 10
Talks between M Sauvagnargues, the French Foreign Minister, and his West German colleague, Herr Genscher, in Paris yesterday confirmed the overall impression that while there is no longer any disagreement about what the European "summit" should achieve, there is not much enthusiasm left for it either.
The French Government, which is committed to producing a new European initiative, takes the most positive view of the "summit", which

is likely to be held on December 9 and 10 in Paris. The possibility of a postponement, frequently mentioned abroad, is "only a hypothesis", according to Paris.
The Franco-German talks, lasting two hours and a half, did dispose of the misunderstanding which arose on October 15 at the Council of Ministers of the Community in Luxembourg over the French proposals. These were generally regarded by the other member countries as irrelevant in view of the oil crisis and inflation.
M Sauvagnargues convinced

Herr Genscher that the second French paper on problems of substance, which with the first one on the improvement of European institutions, will be discussed by foreign ministers in Brussels tomorrow, was regarded in Paris as equally important. It deals with inflation, energy, regional and social problems, and the setting up of a regional development fund.
Bonn, Nov 10.—Mr Callaghan, the British Foreign Secretary, and Herr Genscher today discussed European problems and topics to be broached at the proposed European summit.

Hopes rise for Moro Cabinet by weekend

From Our Correspondent
Rome, Nov 10
There is cautious optimism in Rome that Signor Aldo Moro may be close to forming a government.

Signor Ugo La Malfa, the leader of the Republican Party, said at the weekend that he believed the new government was now ready. It would be a minority Christian Democrat Government with outside support from the other centre-left parties.
But serious difficulties still remain. The Socialists and Republicans appear ready to give outside support to a Christian Democratic administration, but the Social Democrats now oppose a single-party, minority government.
Signor Mario Tanassi, the leader of the Social Democrats, who precipitated the crisis last month with a bitter attack on the Socialists, said at the weekend that a new centre-left administration must be formed.
Signor Moro could form a Christian-Democrat Government with outside support from only the Socialists and Republicans. But sections of his party may be reluctant to form such an administration fearing a loss of votes to their right.
If Signor Moro fails to form a government this week he is likely to give up his mandate. This would prolong the crisis, and its disastrous economic and social implications.

Protest over death of Baader-Meinhof man

From Dan van der Vat
Bonn, Nov 10
The unending controversy about the Baader-Meinhof West German urban guerrilla gang, broke out again at the weekend when one of its leaders died in prison after a hunger strike.

Volger Meins, who was 33, had been in prison continuously since his arrest in June, 1972. He went on hunger strike two months ago, like a number of other alleged members of the gang's hard core, and had been subjected to artificial feeding.
A post-mortem examination today failed to reveal the precise cause of death. A spokesman for the state attorney said that no internal or external injuries had been found. Further forensic tests would be needed.
The oews of Herr Meins' death led to demonstrations in West Berlin, where the group had been formed about seven years ago, and in Stuttgart, where its alleged hard core goes on trial in the spring.
The four survivors of the alleged leadership, who are all on hunger strike, including Frau Ulrike Meinhof and Herr Andreas Baader, face five murder charges, 54 charges of

attempted murder and other counts.
The Stuttgart protest passed without incident. But in West Berlin 13 people were arrested, five policemen were injured and a number of cars were damaged.
The hunger strike began as a protest against prolonged solitary confinement and the length of pre-trial detention, as well as reduced postal and visit facilities.
The Baader-Meinhof group, also known as the "Red Army Faction", in imitation of Japanese terrorist groups, began as a loosely knit group of prosperous, middle-class young people who dabbled in anarchism at the time of the great wave of political unrest in the late 1960s.
Later, the police allege, the group became a terrorist gang carrying out a series of bank robberies and bombings of political targets and fighting gun battles with the police. An exploit that drew widespread attention to the gang was the rescue by Frau Meinhof, aged 39, a journalist and mother of twins, of Herr Baader from a West Berlin prison where he was serving a sentence for arson.

General's son hurt in mystery accident

Our Own Correspondent
Nov 10
General Paul Stehlin's son, aged 20, was injured in a mysterious accident on September 28, a few days after the general had produced his report on the superiority of American French combat aircraft.
The publication of this created a scandal in Paris last week.
The Stehlin said last night he was returning with her son to Beauville to Paris, when the accident occurred. "It was 4 pm and some six kilo-grams from the Morin-lez-Noyon layby on the Normandy by the windscreen of the integrated.
The son was injured in the head in one eye, and let go of the car. I managed to grab him before he fell to a crop, bleeding a great deal, called for help."
The car was examined, a hole was found between the doors, and there were scratches on the paintwork. Stehlin has started proceedings against persons unknown.
The Ministry of the Interior appear to believe that the windscreen could have been hit by a shot fired at the general in a statement today it would trace of a blow on the top of the steering wheel and no object inside the car which might have broken the windscreen.

"In the present state of police investigations, no evidence has been found to determine the cause of the damage to the vehicle."
The Stehlin affair has led to a spate of inscriptions on the walls of Paris in the past 24 hours, some attacking the general and others M Marcel Merle, the builder of the Mirage fighters.
M Dassault, meanwhile, says in an interview in L'Express that the Mirage M53 and the American Y16 and Y17 should meet one another in mock combat to determine which was the better. The Pentagon had accepted the offer, and was waiting for the French Government to formulate it officially.
M Michel Debré, the former Prime Minister, and zealous guardian of Gaullist doctrine, said the roots of the Stehlin affair could be traced back 10 years when the general, who had reached the top of the military hierarchy, had placed himself at the service of a foreign industry competing against France in national defence.
M Gaston Defferre, the Socialist leader, tabled a Bill in the National Assembly on Friday calling for a parliamentary inquiry into French deputies' membership of the boards of foreign or multinational firms.
Leading article, page 15

Norwegians take large contest

From Our Correspondent
Oslo, Nov 10
After 12 hours of play a day over continuous days, the men's European bridge championships have a free day the final three. In the series, all is still to play for five countries in close contention at the head of the pack and at least one more could be considered a possiblity.
Unexpected leaders after rounds are Norway. In round 10 they could have expected to round when they gained more than a 12-8 win against Denmark. France lost to the mark, Switzerland lost to Sweden lost to Portugal and Yugoslavia to the Norwegian cause.
The women's series is much more predictable, with the leading champions, Italy, in a commanding lead. British performance in the series has been a disappointment. The men, at the eighth place, are the most talented on the scene; and equally the women are no more than a mid-flight team in the championship.
The women's team, with four players, was chosen with an eye to the future and it is to be expected that their lack of experience will leave them at a disadvantage in the present event. None the less, they had some good matches against strong teams, notably against the recovered half-time deficit to gain against second-placed Poland.

18,000 strikers locked out

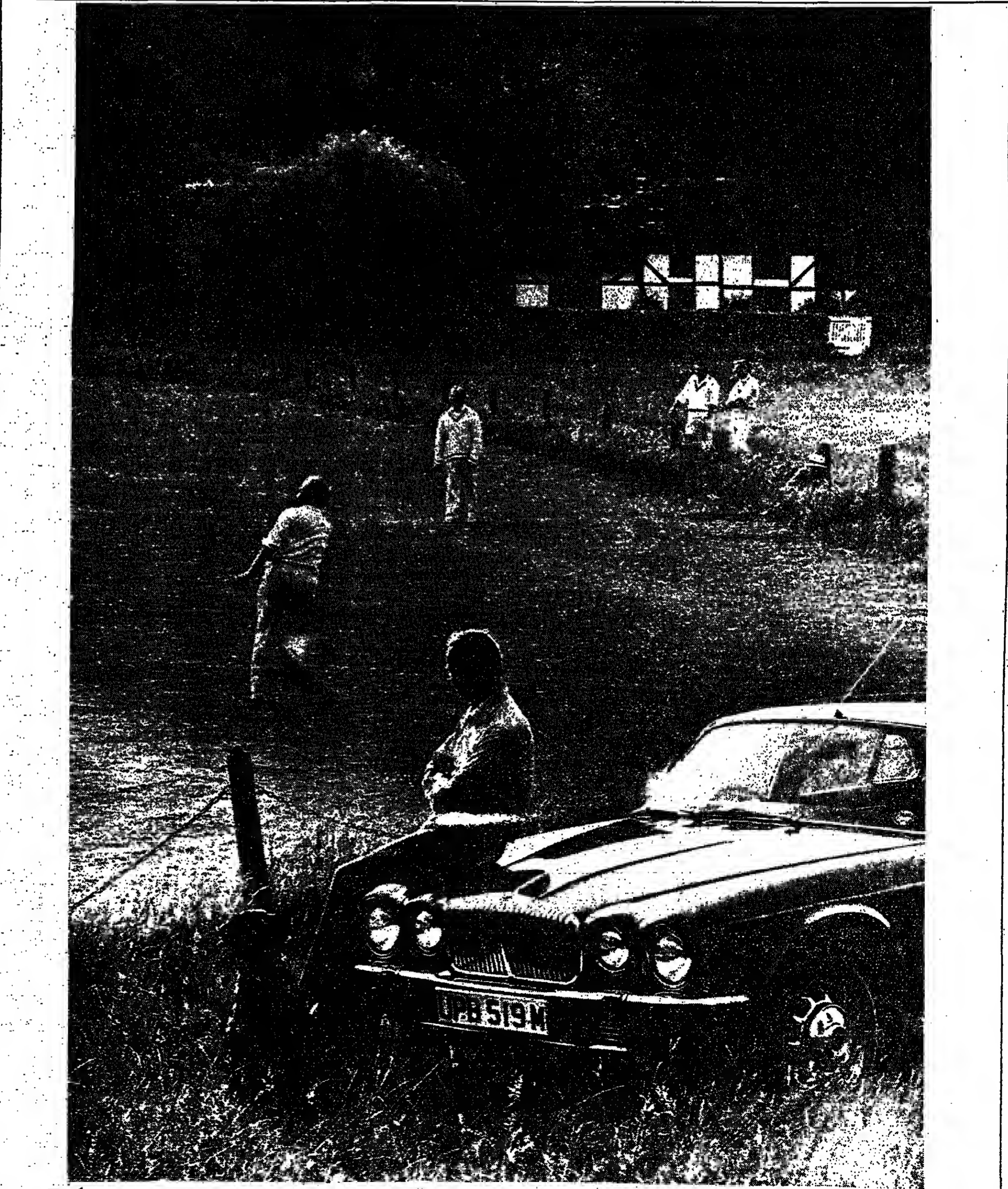
From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Nov 10
Spain's biggest car manufacturer, Seat, this weekend announced a 10-day lockout of more than 18,000 strikers in Barcelona.
The company had earlier asked the Government to let it reduce the working week at the factory to four days because of falling demand for cars. There has been a series of brief strikes since October 18 in support of a pay claim.
The total strike which led to the lockout came after the company imposed disciplinary measures on workers who had taken part in an earlier partial strike.

M Marchais on Lisbon visit

Lisbon, Nov 10.—The leader of the French Communist Party, M George Marchais, arrived here today at the head of a party delegation for a two-day visit and talks with representatives of the Portuguese Communist Party.
In a brief speech at the airport, he said one of the reasons for this visit was to express solidarity with the Portuguese in the new conditions created by "the overthrow of the dictatorship".—Agence France-Presse.

Another victim of German typhoid

Stuttgart, Nov 10.—A three-week wave of typhoid fever in southern Germany today claimed its fifth fatal victim when a 63-year-old woman died in a hospital at Bihlengen, near Stuttgart.
The number of confirmed cases throughout the country has risen to 360. In the Land of Baden-Württemberg, 21 new cases were reported to health authorities during the weekend.
—UPI



The leather and wood have a strange magic; there is a soothing calm, and the pleasing reassurance of something traditional, familiar and very British. Sporting, gentlemanly, restful—with the promise of excitement, this is part of a very special kind of world.... Daimler



OVERSEAS

Dr Kissinger returns from latest trip quietly hopeful on Soviet arms talks and the Middle East

From Fred Emery Washington, Nov 10 Dr Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, this afternoon reported to President Ford at the Camp David mountain retreat on his latest burst of jet diplomacy. They also reviewed preparations for the next. A week today the President leaves for the Far East, for visits to Japan, Korea and the mini-summit with Mr Brezhnev, the Soviet party leader, in Vladivostok on November 23.

seems another way of saying that the Middle East part was virtually fruitless. The thought that a new Salt agreement may be reached next year is a comfort until it is remembered that Dr Kissinger has been talking of a temporary agreement limiting the numbers and types of offensive weapons. Earlier this year he regarded it as a bitter failure when the Russians refused to counter a permanent limitation agreement, and offered the temporary halt as a substitute. On the Middle East Dr Kissinger said on arrival in Washington that he was "fairly optimistic". The statement was made in a capital in which the belief is growing that another war is almost inevitable within six months.

Dr Kissinger said his chief disappointment was the failure to receive the Turkish Government for talks about Cyprus. However, it is accepted here that no movement is possible until after the elections in Greece later this month. Perhaps the main shift in attitude on the Middle East among Dr Kissinger's party is that they no longer take the Rabat summit's decision on Palestinian representation so tragically as they did initially. As recently as last Wednesday the Secretary of State reportedly felt his chances of further mediation had been aborted by the Arab heads of

British firm awarded contract for Suez City

Cairo, Nov 10.—Egypt today signed a contract with the British consultants Sir William Halcrow and Partners to produce the master plan for the reconstruction of the war-devastated city of Suez.

The British partnership was one of 19 consortiums which tendered for the contract, said by informed sources to be of the order of £500,000. The contract was signed by Mr Osman Ahmed Osman, the Reconstruction Minister, and Mr Andrew Sbarman, a Halcrow partner.

Egypt plans to develop Suez, a city of just over 250,000 people before the 1967 war, into an industrial area with a million inhabitants.

A similar contract was signed last week with another British concern, Bullen and Partners, for the development of Port Said, at the northern end of the Suez Canal.

A third contract will be signed tomorrow, with another British partnership for the drawing up of an overall plan for the Ismailia area.

After signing the contract Mr Sbarman said planning of the city would be a big exercise in vision. Sir William Halcrow & Partners will be advising the authority where best to site roads, railways, harbours, factories, housing areas and shopping centres. The group will start its work next month.



The Panovs dance for the first time before a Western audience.

Israel debut by Panovs

Tel Aviv, Nov 10.—Valery and Galina Panov, the Russian ballet stars who struggled for two years to leave the Soviet Union, made their first appearance in the western world today to an ovation from 3,000 Israelis, among them the former Prime Minister, Mrs Golda Meir.

The Panovs, now Israeli citizens, were giving the first of five concerts in Israel. The couple's opening number, a pas de deux from Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite, was a mixture of elegance and austerity. There were no sets and no scenery and the Panovs pruned on a bare stage before the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, seated behind the dancers.—AP.

Communist successes in Athens student poll

From Our Correspondent Athens, Nov 10

The Communists appear to be gaining control of some student unions in Athens according to the first results of the student elections held throughout Greece yesterday.

Movement of Professor Andreas Papanou won 54 seats, those related to the conservatives of Mr Karamanlis, the Prime Minister, 20, and there were 29 independents mostly of the left.

Partial results from 22 student unions in Athens showed that out of 209 union officers elected so far, 57 were affiliated with the Moscow-oriented Greek Communist Party, 32 were supported by the westernized Communists as well as by liberals, 17 were a mixture of various left-wingers, Trotskyists and Maoists. Candidates sponsored by the Panhellenic Socialist

of the most obvious causes of the present confusion is to be found in the increased prices of foodstuffs and of the materials needed for their production. An example is fertilizers. Their high price, and scarcity are perhaps watering down the benefits of the "green revolution" (the use of high-yield strains of cereals). Is not this a case intimately bound up with the fluctuations

Americans urged by Mr Arafat to stop aiding Israel

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, Nov 10

Mr Yassar Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, used his first United States national television interview to express fear of renewed war in the Middle East and to appeal for Americans to pressure their Government to stop helping Israel.

He was interviewed on the eve of the arrival at the United Nations of Palestinian representatives. Answering questions "somewhere in Lebanon" in baling English and Arabic, he insisted that Americans should realize their taxes were helping in the form of napalm on refugee camps.

He said a stop to "unconditional" American aid to Israel and what he called United States-Israeli "joint planning" was the only way to prevent imminent fighting. Mr Arafat said he did not accept any actions of terrorism.

Cyprus presses Britain for unpaid debts

From Our Correspondent Nicosia, Nov 10

Cyprus is pressing a claim against the British Government, believed to be more than £65m, for unpaid debts connected with military bases in the island. An official announcement over the weekend said that the Cypriot Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Finance, Mr John Christofides and Mr Andreas Patsalides—would travel to London on Thursday for talks.

The claim has been in abeyance since 1963, when, after the outbreak of fighting between the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities, the British Government discontinued payments to Cyprus for the bases, as provided in the 1960 Cyprus independence agreements. These gave Britain two sovereign base areas, at Akrotiri in the south-west and Episkopi-Alakrotiri in the south-west, comprising 99 square miles, as well as the right to use other facilities such as airports and seaports, roads and firing ranges.

Britain originally undertook to pay the Cyprus Government £12m by 1965, as financial assistance, and a further sum for use of the facilities outside the bases; but the amount had not been agreed by the time payment stopped. It was also agreed that there would be a further sum to be paid in the five-year period after independence.

One of the reasons why payment was discontinued by Whitehall was because the Turkish Cypriot side demanded that a share of any payment should be paid directly to it, and not wholly to the Cyprus Government, which it contended

represented only the Greek Cypriot community. Talks for payment of the arrears started last year and continued at a leisurely pace in what officials described as "a friendly and gentlemanly fashion", until they were interrupted by the Turkish invasion in July.

With the desperate need for funds to meet the consequences of the invasion to the island's economy, it is now thought that the talks will be conducted much more vigorously than before. Informed sources say the Cyprus Government is demanding a sum between £65m and £100m.

As the Turks now control 40 per cent of the island and have their own separate de facto Administration firmly entrenched, it is believed that their claim for share in what ever sum Britain decides to pay will also be strongly pressed.

Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes: The Foreign Office confirmed that Mr Christofides is coming to London for talks on Thursday. In the view of the Cyprus Government, the claim against Britain has never been dropped, so that it is not a question of reviving it. It is felt in London that the Cyprus Government would recognize that this is a matter of principle, not of expediency, and that it is a matter of principle, not of expediency, that the discussion could be taken any further at this week's meeting.

While it is certainly open to Mr Christofides to raise the matter of the claim should he wish to do so, it seems unlikely that the discussion could be taken any further at this week's meeting.

Anti-Cuba bomb explosion in OAS building

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, Nov 10

A bomb explosion damaged the headquarters building here of the Organization of American States (OAS) last night, and in Los Angeles early today a bomb wrecked the front of a United Nations Association bookshop. There were no injuries in either incident.

After the Los Angeles explosion an anonymous caller said it was an anonymous caller who said "Thank you for message for the PLO"—the Palestine Liberation Organization, which has been invited to address the United Nations later this week. He used the "Never again" slogan of the militant Jewish

Purported anti-Castro Cubans claimed credit for the Washington explosion. An anonymous telephone caller told a news agency that it was in protest against the prospective lifting of OAS membership in Quito, Ecuador, of the decade-old economic blockade of Cuba.

In Portland, Oregon, a middle aged couple were arrested as suspects in the extortion bombings of power pylons. Eleven pylons have been blown up in mountains round the city since the summer and there have been demands for a ransom of \$1m (about £435,000).

Mr Ian Smith points to food exports as sign of success

From Our Correspondent Salisbury, Nov 10

Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, says that Rhodesia would be a wonder of days and not months. "What so many of these people don't realize is that we here in Rhodesia have a sophisticated and high standard of civilization which is comparable with that found in Western Europe."

In Rhodesia the year before last we had the greatest drought in our history. But not only did we produce enough food for our own requirements we produced a surplus which enabled us to export millions of bags of food to other countries in the world.

"Then last year instead of a drought we had one of the greatest floods on record." In that year also Rhodesia was again able to export a surplus of food, he claimed.

At midnight Mr Smith rang the giant "independence bell". The chimes were broadcast live to the Nation and Rhodesians moved into their tenth year of self-proclaimed independence—a year which seems likely to be as full of uncertainty as the previous nine.

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Hope that any troop cuts by Wilson Government in Europe will be confined to support troops

From Roger Berthoud Brussels, Nov 10

It is widely hoped at Nato headquarters that the Labour Government's imminent defence review will make any cuts in Nato-committed troops subject to progress in the continuing East-West talks on mutual force reductions in Vienna.

This would be logical, since in 1968 the Labour Government of the day, Mr Healey as Defence Minister, was among the keenest advocates of Nato moves to launch the talks, which finally opened in October, 1973. The western position, endorsed by Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, in Washington last June, is that initial troop cuts should be restricted to the two superpowers.

It would appear inconsistent and disloyal if the present Labour Government undermined this by making unilateral cuts in Nato-assigned troops in the central European zone—as even Labour's left-wingers might agree. The Dutch set a useful precedent in July when under Nato pressure they made their proposed troop cuts partially dependent on progress in the Vienna talks.

Another hope at Nato is that any British cuts in Nato commitments will concentrate on the "fat" of logistic support and not on combat troops. Here the United States is setting a good example. On November 5 its Defence Secretary, Mr James Schlesinger, announced that

Profit-making in food attacked by the Pope

From Peter Nichols Rome, Nov 10

The world food conference prepared to face the second and final stage of its work from tomorrow with a warning by the Pope of the need to respond to the "absolute urgency and priority of the needs in question."

The Pope received the delegates yesterday. His address evoked the magnitude of the problem of hunger and his deep interest in social problems. He stated, in a phrase adapted from one of his own speeches against war: "No more hunger, hunger never again."

The world was facing an acute crisis of civilization and of method, the Pope said, attacking the philosophy under which "the only model of society that leads to an industrialized nation is considered—that is to say when such confidence is placed in the automatic nature of purely technical solutions while fundamental human values are forgotten."

The Pope regretted the neglect of agriculture. "It is a crisis which shows itself when the accent is placed on the quest for mere economic success deriving from the large profits of almost total abandonment of the agricultural sector, and the accompanying neglect of its highest human and spiritual values."

He talked about the paradox—only too evident in desultory debates of the past week—the conference—to which mankind has at its disposal an unequalled mastery, of the universe, yet a situation existed "in which the wealth of some can tolerate the enduring poverty of so many."

The Pope criticized the insistence (shown above all by the American delegation) on the paramount importance of the profit motive in determining food supplies.

"It is indeed time to find out where the mechanisms have broken down, so that the situation can be corrected, or rather reordered from beginning to end. The right to satisfy one's hunger must finally be recognized for everyone, according to the specific requirements of his age and activity."

"This right is based on the fact that all the goods of the earth are destined primarily for the use of all men, before any individual appropriation. Christ based the judgment of each human being on respect for this right."

"In examining the data of the problem, some facts are immediately evident. One of the most obvious causes of the present confusion is to be found in the increased prices of foodstuffs and of the materials needed for their production. An example is fertilizers.

Their high price, and scarcity are perhaps watering down the benefits of the "green revolution" (the use of high-yield strains of cereals). Is not this a case intimately bound up with the fluctuations

of a production based more on the calculations of profits to be gained than on satisfying needs of mankind? "The reduction of supplies, which is also at root of present worries, is less partially due to commercial decisions which result in the lack of available reserves for victims of sudden and unforeseen shortages. general food crisis is apparent and it is foreseen that it will worsen, while in some regions are particularly suited to ensure a surplus emergency reserves the acreage has been reduced it is essential that we are face to with the contradictions which characterize this acute crisis civilization."

He rejected the "alibi" which ought to be kept to keep the number hungry mouths to feed. "It is inadmissible that who have control of the means and resources of man should try to resolve the problem of hunger by hiding poor to be born, or by leading to die of hunger children who parents do not fit into framework of theoretical or pure hypotheses about future agricultural workers."

"In times gone by, in a that we hope is now finished, nations used to make a seize their neighbor's riches. But is it not a new of warfare to impose a re- demographic policy nations, to ensure that they do not die of their own abundance of the earth's goods?"

The Pope's final piece of advice was a reiterated call for a revival of agriculture. "The world food crisis will not be solved without the participation of the agricultural workers. This cannot be complete fruitful without a radical change of the underestimation of the modern world of the importance of agriculture."

"Whatever may be the of the technical means employed, nothing will be achieved unless the true reform is sent by the rehabilitation of agriculture and the re-er present strivings towards."

The conference needs a plus like the Pope's. They been applause at the conference on Friday when General Romulo, the Foreign Minister of the Philippines, proposed the system of the papal clause be adopted by local delegates inside the with the average nation Asian peasant until they found the solution to the.

But the general himself was the customary languor return. The summary of the conference's work at midpoint, by one of the main organizers was that at least it had duced almost unanimous among 130 nations a awareness of the problem. Some progress had been made to meeting the immediate thr famine but only meagre commitments towards fine long-term increases in food duction had been forthco

FBI kill hijacker who parachuted

Norfolk, Virginia, Nov 10.—Richard Floyd McCoy, who parachuted from an airliner he hijacked in 1972 with \$500,000 (£200,000) was killed last night in a gun battle with Federal Bureau of Investigation agents, the FBI said today.

Agents, waiting in a ranch-style house in a middle class suburb of Virginia Beach, also arrested Mr McCoy's partner, a convicted bank robber and one of the 10 most wanted men in the United States.—Reuter.

Expelled British diplomats return from Uganda

The 14 staff of the British High Commission in Kampala, expelled from Uganda on President Amin's orders, arrived at Heathrow airport yesterday with their wives and children.

The staff, diplomats and secretarial staff, were met at the steps of their aircraft by Foreign Office officials. They refused to comment on their departure from Uganda. One man said: "We can't say anything. We have to speak to the Foreign Office and undergo a briefing before any comment can be made."

Mr Michael Hodge, a commercial secretary working in the Diplomatic Service, said that they experienced no difficulties when they left Uganda.

15 are reported killed in anti-Amin revolt

Dar es Salaam, Nov 10.—Ugandan commandos attempted to overthrow President Idi Amin last week but the revolt was crushed by loyal troops after heavy fighting. East African diplomatic sources said today.

At least 15 troops, part of a special commando division established personally by General Amin, were killed in the rebellion on Wednesday at Mbuya barracks, Kampala, the sources said.

There is believed to have been widespread unrest in the Army. The diplomatic sources here said the revolt last week started when the commandos complained that they had not been paid for three months and had not received full combat rations.—UPI.

Captain held after collision in which 19 died

Tokyo, Nov 10.—Maritime safety authorities at Yokohama near here today arrested the captain of the Japanese tanker Number 10 Yuvo Maru in connection with yesterday's collision between his vessel and the American Liberian cargo ship in Tokyo Bay.

Captain Akira Ogawa, aged 46, was held on suspicion of failure to take proper steps to prevent the collision between the 43,723-ton tanker and the 10,074-ton Pacific Areas.

At least 19 seamen are known to have died as the cargo ship caught fire and the tanker exploded—18 from the Liberian ship and one from the Japanese vessel. Another 14 remain unaccounted for.—Reuter.

Autumn crop relieves Bangladesh

From Michael Hornsby Dacca, Nov 10

For the first time in many months Bangladesh's hungry millions can look forward to some relief as the crucial autumn rice harvest begins to reach the market.

In the past week or so the price of rice has fallen quite sharply in anticipation of the coming crop, and the Government plans to close down most of its 5,700 emergency food centres and gruel kitchens by the middle of this month.

Unfortunately, however, the rice harvest is not expected to be as plentiful as hoped because of the unavailability of rice in Bangladesh bears only a tenuous relationship to the conventional laws of supply and demand.

While in the long run keeping food production abreast of population growth is the central problem confronting Bangladesh, there is no doubt that the present famine owes much to unrelenting blackmarketeering, hoarding and maldistribution.

More important was the huge inflation in prices manipulated by corrupt dealers and traders, often with the participation of politicians belonging to the ruling Awami League, which placed rice beyond the means of 40 per cent of the rural population, who are either landless or marginal farmers owning less than one acre.

In addition, as much as one million tonnes of more or grain is accounted for a large percentage of the country's food deficit—is thought to have been smuggled into India during the past year, either for barter against scarce commodities or to take advantage of the black-market exchange rate differential.

"We are going to be ruthless," a senior Government official said. "Smugglers and black marketeers will be shot at sight." But this sort of rhetoric has long come to have a hollow sound.

One of the Government's most notorious failures has been to the procurement of the big farmers' marketable surplus, which is supposed to supply the state-run, fixed-price ration shops.

Last year the Government set itself a procurement target of

Mr Calley is freed on bail of \$1,000

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, Nov 10

Mr William Calley, the former Army lieutenant who was the only officer convicted for the massacre of 22 Vietnamese civilians that his platoon perpetrated at My Lai, was set free at Columbus, Georgia, yesterday.

He had spent nearly three years under open arrest and the past eight months in military prison after exhausting appeals against his court martial conviction for murder.

Technically he is free on \$1,000 (£400) bail but the Army Secretary intends to parole him—that is his 10-year sentence will be commuted—in 10 days time.

Chess draw keeps Karpov in front Moscow, Nov 10.—Anatoly Karpov and Viktor Korchnoi yesterday drew the adjourned twentieth game of their chess match to find a challenger to Bobby Fischer, the world champion. Karpov still leads 3—1.—Agence France-Press.

Senators meet European MPs

By David Spanier Diplomatic Correspondent

The presence in London of more than 30 members of the United States Congress, and strong delegations from European countries, gives the twentieth annual session of the North Atlantic Assembly unusual importance this week.

The American delegation includes Senator Henry Jackson, leader of the campaign to secure the right of Soviet Jews to emigrate to return for trade concessions, and Senator Edward Kennedy. Senator Jackson is to address the Pilgrims' dinner to-night on East-West relations.

One of the main concerns of the Democrats in the American delegation is to put their point of view on foreign policy, to balance the presentation of the Administration's case which, in Dr Kissinger's capable hands,

has attracted all the attention in Europe. Some of the Democrats feel that the new strength they have gained in the Congressional elections entitles them to a stronger voice in fashioning policy.

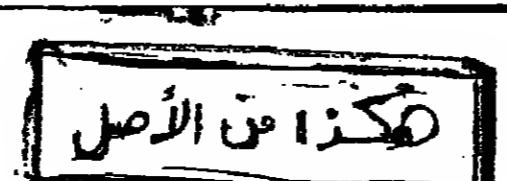
On the European side, it seems likely that the question of America's role in Chile will be raised, at least in the privacy of committee sessions. Many European parliamentarians have criticized American involvement in Chile and believe that, in these days, the world is too small for Nato to isolate itself from such issues.

As one European delegate explained, the political changes in Greece and Portugal have renewed a long-standing embarrassment to the alliance. It is now the responsibility of the Americans to keep the Central Intelligence Agency in check, to

avoid giving the Westeros a bad name.

The first three days this will be spent in committee meetings, which will hear reports from the various countries on cultural affairs, security, social problems and scientific progress. Mr Wilson and Dr L. the Nato Secretary-General, will be among the speakers at a plenary session on Thursday.

One of the reports expected to attract particular discussion is by Mr Patrick Well (Ireland) on the security situation in the Mediterranean. He will also discuss the present economic and political conditions in the area and member countries to seek common solutions to their problem



ADVERTISEMENT

THE SHAHANSHAH'S PROPOSAL FOR A NEW OIL PRICING SYSTEM

A great deal has been said about the Shahanshah of Iran's long-ranging proposal for the establishment of a new system of pricing for oil. In some cases, unfortunately, his Imperial Majesty's views have been misconstrued due to accidental or deliberate distortions of remarks made by the Shahanshah at his press conference in Tehran on November 2, 1974.

Some American correspondents who attended the press conference erroneously interpreted the Shahanshah's remarks as meaning that Iran has swung round its consistently held views and was now advocating a reduction in the revenue of oil exporting nations from each barrel of oil.

Whether deliberate or accidental these errors were out subsequently rectified despite numerous clarifications and comments published by the Iranian mass media. Misleading the world public opinion on so vital an issue as oil prices could have very grave consequences for both producers and consumers.

Faced with the tacit refusal of certain mass media to rectify their errors we are left with no choice but to publish the full text of the Shahanshah's press conference in the form of an advertisement.

A brief note on the Shahanshah's proposals is, perhaps, necessary. The Shahanshah proposes the abolition of the (posted price), a purely fictitious price and its replacement by a single base price for oil.

The (posted price) and other similar fictitious prices provide a cover for the oil companies under which they can make excessive profits at the expense of the consumers.

Under the Shahanshah's proposal, which will be discussed at the forthcoming session of the OPEC ministerial council in Vienna, all fictitious prices will be abolished for good. This would be accompanied by a reduction of the profits of oil companies from each barrel of oil to the tune of 75 per cent. Instead of making an average of 2 dollars on each barrel of crude oil the companies will be allowed an average profit of no more than 50 U.S. cents.

The new single base price for oil in the Persian Gulf will be calculated on the basis of the present 40-60 per cent participation scheme enforced in Kuwait. This would mean a reduction of the price of oil for consumers to the tune of 1.50 to 1.60 dollars per barrel. At the same time, however, there will be absolutely no reduction of OPEC revenues from each barrel of oil—in other words (Government take) will not be affected.

The Shahanshah's proposal is, therefore, directed at reducing the profits of the oil companies which, in some cases, have increased by between 400 and 700 per cent during the past two years. This will make oil less expensive for the consumers without depriving OPEC members of their just income.

At the same time the Shahanshah proposes the linking of the price of crude oil to prices of some 20 or 30 other basic commodities and manufactured goods needed by OPEC members and the developing countries. This gives Western economies an immediate interest in halting inflation, a move that would benefit the whole of mankind.

Details of the Shahanshah's proposal for establishing a new system of pricing for oil are fully clear in the text of His Imperial Majesty's interview.

Following is the text of questions and answers dealing with the oil issue:

Your Majesty, can you tell us please if you have been approached by Saudi Arabia to join the lowering of oil prices, and, if you have, what the result of that approach is?

I think that if you wait until the next meeting of the Opec countries in Vienna, you will see what Iran's proposals will be. I will just touch on the subject. We are going to propose for a single price of oil all over the world except for geographical location and quality of oil. That single price of oil will be well below the actual posted price of the Persian Gulf. But it will not be long before we have that meeting of Opec and I do not want to steal the show from that meeting now.

Your Majesty, has King Faisal sent you a letter during the last few weeks, asking you for your cooperation in the oil price question?

Well, we are in contact with Saudi Arabia and our system might be different from theirs because they are talking about... they have a participation agreement with oil companies whereas in our case oil has been completely nationalised. So the approach is quite different. But we are in very close contact and if our methods are different, probably, our aim is the same.

Your Majesty, did Secretary Kissinger give you the impression that the United States will support a fixed price for oil?

Well, I cannot speak for him. But I think that a fixed price for oil has the advantage that nobody could manipulate it further. I mean, everybody will know that there is one single price for oil and how much profits

the oil companies should make on a barrel of oil and how much it will cost the consumer to use and to consume that oil and how much he is going to pay his own country in taxation. There are cases, I am not going to mention any names, of countries in Europe which levy on one barrel of oil so much taxes that it is more than the government take off for instance my country. And this is true.

Your Majesty, when you refer to a single price for oil for the Persian Gulf—which you will propose—I assumed that, you also are still trying to link for basic commodities of elsewhere throughout the world?

Oh, yes, I think this is the basis of our proposal to link it later to a basket of prices of say 20 to 30 commodities, if they go up, why should we lose our purchasing power? If they go down, oil should go down along, to help the world economy. But what is really interesting to us is to hold our purchasing power intact, because we have been cheated so much in the past that we have got to defend our interest in that sense, that with inflation and erosion of the purchasing power of our money the same old situation is not going to be repeated once more.

Your Majesty, may I follow that up, sir? In other words, in order to achieve this new relationship of oil prices and commodity prices, will it not require a considerable—almost a revolutionary—change of concept by the major industrial countries for establishing this new relationship, and secondly—if you comment on that—what do you regard as the prospects for achieving this kind of relationship in a short term?

No, doubt there must be a contact between the OECD countries, representing, if we can say, all the advanced industrial countries of the world, and our organisation, or the representatives of our organisation. They could discuss the whole aspects of world economy and how to establish a contact—establish a relationship—between the prices of these 20 to 30 commodities and the world inflation because if we cannot link the price of oil with the price of inflation, there will not be any pressure or incentive for the industrial world to check their inflation. If they do not check their inflation, we can defend ourselves with the pricing of our oil. But who is going to suffer? The poor countries, or the developing countries? They will suffer on both fronts. So to keep our whole world together in one piece we will have to have a very comprehensive talk between the developed industrial countries of the world and we, producers of energy, in the immediate future.

Your Majesty, the indexing system has been criticised as possibly institutionalising inflation. Do you disagree with that?

How could it institutionalise inflation?

Well, I am not one of the proponents of the criticism, but the way it has been explained to me is that it locks you into a system where you set minimums that in effect set an inflationary rate and keep it moving up and possibly a little down.

Well, we have been witnessing inflation in the world before the increase of the oil price. We have had inflation in the world when oil was so cheap. How do they respond to this? Or answer to this?

Your Majesty, on indexing would you be willing to take the previous price of oil because the prices of goods you have listed have gone up less than double whereas the oil prices have more than trebled?

Well, this is simplifying things, because—well, this is a long story but I have got to say it once more—in 1947 the posted price of a barrel of oil in the Persian Gulf was 2/17 dollars, in 1959 the posted price of a barrel of oil in the Persian Gulf was 1/79 dollar. That is a decrease of 38 cents. In that period of time, world commodities increased by between 300 and 400 per cent. I am giving you facts. What about that? And, furthermore, the price of commodities have not increased twice.

We are buying sugar for more than 1,000 dollars now. We are buying vegetable oil for more than 1,000 dollars.

You will tell me it is because of the increase in the price of oil that agriculture has augmented. I will say why has the price of cotton dropped? Or coffee? So, there must be a relationship. Our price of oil at the beginning, and again I am going to go into that detail, even if you do not print it, it does not matter. In 1973—December 1973—when I asked for 7 dollars government take for the light Arabian crude in the Persian Gulf—please note this down—later on the oil companies in their negotiations for participation agreement with other countries of the Persian Gulf on their 40-60 participation agreements rose the price of oil to what it is now, that is 9/74 dollars. I did not do it. The oil companies did. I do not care if you call me the hawk. But the truth is what I just told you. When I asked for 7 dollars, it was to have a comparison between any other sources of energy, like shale oil, coal, or any other kind of energy. And today we know that you cannot get shale oil or other sources of energy for even that price. So, when we go into discussion with the developed countries of the world—and I hope a comprehensive and constructive discussion—it must be about all these things, to think of the economy of the whole world, not just the interest of a few countries or the interests of few producers—because if the world collapses we shall collapse with it. We belong to that world. We belong to the world that you call—the so-called free world. And we do not want to see you collapse because we are going to collapse with you—along with you.

Your Majesty, when you make your proposal at the OPEC meeting, could you give us an idea now what the range of the price would be?

If it has been published so far, if the figures have been quoted, I can also say what the proposal will be. It is the present government take as a single price and that will bring the price of the posted in the Persian Gulf considerably.

Considerably down?

Down.

Can you say—estimate—how much?

About 1/60 dollar of the posted.

Your Majesty, as you know, there are hundreds of millions of people who have been bewildered by the oil pricing structure: Well-head prices, posted prices, percentages, concessions, royalties. To all those people all over the world, what does this mean? Is it your educated guess the price of oil will go up or down in the next year?

It will—for the consumer?

For the consumer.

It will go down because we want to limit the oil companies to only 50 cents per barrel revenue—interest. If you think that this is too much it will be your problem with the oil companies. We will say it is fair, but why should they make 2 dollars on one barrel of oil? Why should some of them make 700 per cent interest in one year? Is that fair?

So you think that the price of a gallon of gasoline, say in the United States will be less in a year from now than it is today?

It should be less. It should be less because there will be that much money less in the posted price and that the profits of the oil companies would be limited. So there should be less pressure on the consumer unless every government is going to levy additional taxes on gasoline and these things in order to curb the consumption. This would be beyond our responsibilities.

Your Majesty, so we do not misunderstand you, are you saying, sir, that this is apart from your basic concept of linkage or that this will be part of what will go into effect any rate at the OPEC meeting?

No, this would go into effect any rate. For the future there must be a link between the price of oil and the price of the commodities because, if not, somebody will say the inflation of the world is 12 per cent, somebody will say it is 25 per cent, somebody will say it is maybe 5 per cent, but in order to safeguard our interest we will have to say that we have got to increase the price of oil that much in order to keep our purchasing power intact. That will make things so much complicated, but if it is an automatic link between the price of those commodities and the price of oil say let's accept an international institution, either related to the United Nations or the International Chamber of Commerce of Zurich who could say what this index is, what world inflation is really, and then relate this to the price of oil.

Well, the reason I asked this for the clarification for those who do not follow all the intricacies of the oil pricing system is that while you speak of a general consumers price reduction, even without the linking of the oil, experts here tell us that the OPEC meeting almost surely will result in an increase in the price of oil of some 34 cents a barrel. Could you clarify that?

Oh, that is for the present inflation system. You will have to wait for this until the OPEC meetings because the price—I mean inflation rate—in the world today, I do not know how much it is, some people say about 20 per cent, 27 per cent. In European countries, some are less: Germany 7 per cent, others are 15 per cent, the United States, you know better. So, there is not a definite, clear picture. We have always said that the price of oil and the purchasing power should remain intact. But nevertheless, we have not increased the price of oil as much as the rate of inflation. That was to show some goodwill gesture. But this does not mean that you can, at free will, get your inflation gallop and erode our purchasing power without us trying to defend our interest.

I recognize that. Therefore, then are you agreeing, Sir, that the price of oil will actually increase once the inflation rate is added to it at the next OPEC meeting?

Again all will depend on what initial single price we are going to propose. Let's wait until we have the meeting.

Your Majesty, is it a fair statement that your indexing and linkage concept between the price of oil and the price of 20 or 30 commodities can only work if the preponderant number of the oil producers and the majority of the nations consumers all function within that system? And who is going to carry the ball, so to speak, in order to get this system launched?

Well there should be some kind of agreement and understanding between the developed countries, the industrial countries of the world, because they consume, I think, about 85 per cent of the whole oil production of the world. The rest of the countries, the third world or developing countries, consume only 15 per cent.

Your Majesty, for those of us who might have followed the intricacies in this whole oil question, there might appear something of contradiction here because, on the one hand, we are being told that a year from now an America buying gas probably will be paying less than he pays now. On the other hand, if I understood it right, in the next OPEC meeting there might be a 30 to 40 per cent increase in the cost of the oil, exported crude. What is going to happen, is it going up or is it going down?

Well if the oil companies make only 50 cents instead of 2 United States dollars it will go down. If you let them do anything they want, it will go up.

So that the responsibility then, in your opinion, would rest with the oil companies? Whatever controls...

Surely, that is why I am proposing a single price system. Because if not, if it is a posted price, then you have realisation price, half-way price, buy-back price,

God knows what other pricing systems, and you would never know what is happening. It is really a question of manipulation. But if you have a single pricing system it will be clear for everybody who is cheating.

And could there be a single price since there are so many countries involved and...?

I said except for the geographical location and the quality of oil. We cannot expect to get as much money with the selling of oil to the United States states as Venezuela can because she is so much closer we cannot expect to get as much money as Algeria in selling our oil to Europe because Algeria is so much closer.

Your Majesty, do you think that the oil companies have been gouging the public recently? Too much profit?

The published figures are about sometimes 100 per cent, 400 per cent, 300 per cent, 150 per cent, this is up to you to decide if they have been gouging or not.

Your Majesty, just to compare it from a different angle, what will happen to the revenues accruing to the producing countries? Are they going to increase or decrease?

To the producing countries? No. They are not going to decrease. Certainly not. And I see no reason why. But the oil companies will make less profits for one. Second is that this year of terrible world inflation has already eroded our purchasing power. So in matter of fact the price of oil has come down. As far as we are concerned, because we have not augmented in OPEC as much as we have lost. We have augmented 33 cents with, if we say an average of 20 per cent inflation, we have lost about 2 United States dollars.

If the oil price can't be worked out if the western industrialised world is not satisfied in principle. How serious do you regard the threat of some kind of military confrontation?

Well that seems really a little remote. How? Military intervention in how many places? In all the oil producing countries of the world? Are you going to occupy Venezuela, who? Is America going to do all these occupation jobs? Do you have enough troops? Can you occupy Venezuela, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Iran and the rest of the OPEC countries? Or will you gang up? Will you with the Europeans do this job? Do you think that the communists will stay silent? No I really think that this question, military confrontation, is just a little loose talk. It is not very serious. The only thing that could be achieved will be through meaningful negotiations, and constructive, I hope.

Your Majesty, I am still somewhat confused on your position and Dr. Kissinger's. In his news conference just before this he left a very strong impression that the views of the two nations has narrowed somewhat, that in fact at the OPEC meeting the oil price might be stabilised, or possibly come down, although he did not say this specifically. From your comments I am getting the impression that unless the oil companies are willing to accept profits of, as you say, 50 per cent or less, we can look forward to an increase in the posted price.

But the oil companies have no choice. They have to accept it is not for the oil companies to decide. They have no choice in that matter, unless you people want the oil companies to make more benefit than 50 cents which is a very handsome figure. Do you want them to make more money? I don't think so. Unless you are a big shareholder in the oil company.

As you see, your Majesty, some of us are not clear on the technicalities. There, on that one point, is the situation that the reduced profits of 50 cents... for the oil companies is automatically imposed by, or ordered by, Opec at the forthcoming meeting?

Well, we can do that in having one single price. We can tell the world this is a single pricing system that the Opec countries have decided, with the exception of geographical location and quality of oil and this is accepted by all. Now, anything that the oil companies will sell you more than this single price plus, say 50 cents, will concern only you and the oil companies.

Your Majesty, we've been talking a great deal about the oil producers and the industrialized world, but what contact have you been having with the developing states, particularly some in Africa, who have been very much concerned by drought and... insufficient fertiliser for crops and so forth? Do you have any additional initiatives other than loans? As to how these countries can get through some of their economic difficulties?

Well, we have made a proposal to the United Nations for the setting up of a special fund where we oil producers will contribute—and we even mentioned the figure of 150 million dollars each—and the developed countries of the world will also contribute and 12 of them will be represented on that board with us. We were 12 in those days. Now we might be 13 or 14. And also the same number of 12 representing the developing countries of the world sitting on the board which will study the projects presented by these developing countries. And each project that would be approved will get a soft loan say 25 years term in period, 2 1/2 per cent interest rate through institution which will be serviced by the existing international bank and the (IMF). Instead of creating a new bank and wasting money on that institution we shall use the good offices and services of the two existing banks. This will give about three billion dollars every year which could be lent on those terms to the developing countries, not just the money, but for definite projects.

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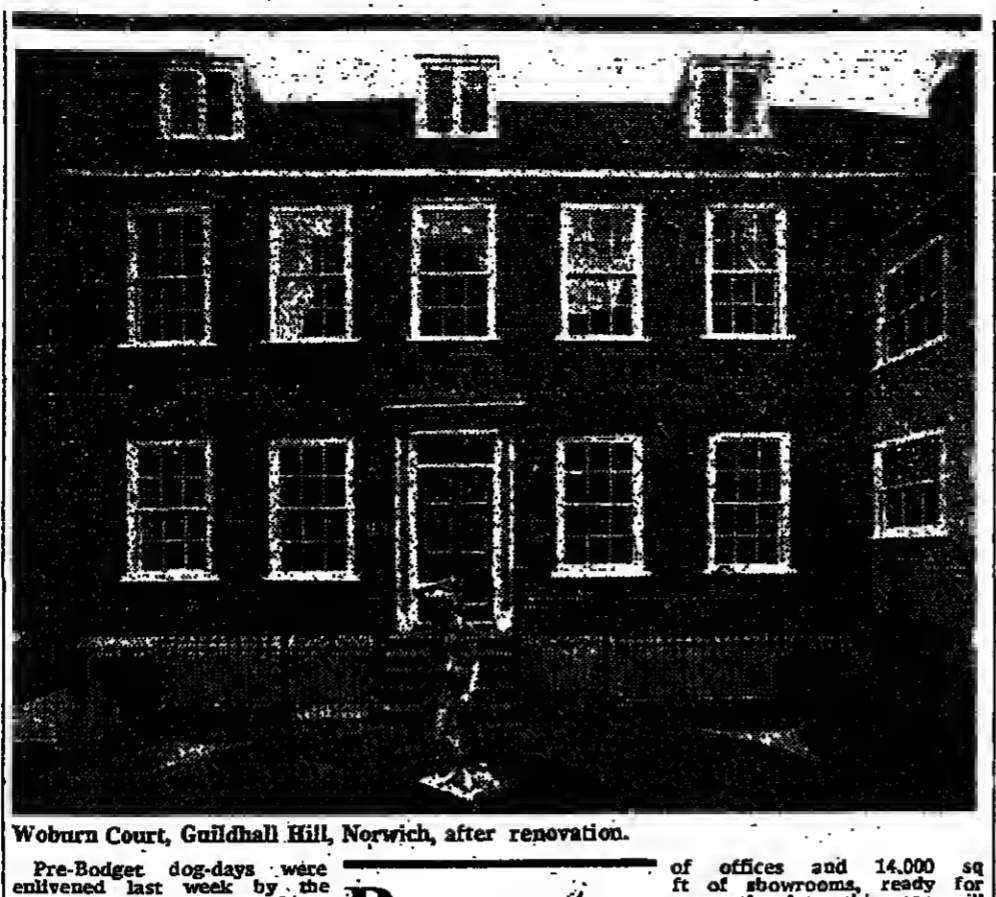
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Woburn Court, Guildhall Hill, Norwich, after renovation.

Pre-Budget dog-days were enlivened last week by the announcement of two large office development schemes in Basingstoke and Stockport.

In Basingstoke the Greater London Council Superannuation Fund are going ahead with a large office complex on a site at the junction of Alencon Link and Churchill Way. They have awarded the contract worth £5,300,000, to George Wimpey and Co.

Designed by Elson Pack and Roberts, the building will consist of three linked blocks of 18, six and five storeys with a total net area of some 155,000 sq ft of air-conditioned space. Parking will be provided for 300 cars on ground and lower ground floors. It is expected the scheme will be completed by January, 1977. The letting agents are Hillier Parker May and Rowden, who also develop and manage the site.

In Stockport the Teesland Group are planning to provide more than 240,000 sq ft net in the centre of the city. The group have outline planning permission for the project and detailed plans are to be submitted to the planning authority shortly on the basis of a twin-tower scheme, one of 20 storeys and the other of 14.

Alternative schemes have also been prepared and the ultimate form of the development would depend largely on the needs of prospective tenants. Discussions are being held with a large international group for possibly up to 150,000 sq ft. The scheme is in a key position, an island site giving on to Daw Bank, Exchange Place and Wellington Road South. There will be extensive covered parking facilities and it is proposed that the site should be linked both with the mainline railway station and the new bus terminal by pedestrian travelators. Lettings are through Hillier Parker May and Rowden. Mackenzie Hill's renovation scheme at 8/10 Grosvenor Gardens, London, SW1, is due for completion next February. It will provide about 27,000 sq ft on eight floors, with all modern amenities, behind the facade of

Property

Offices enliven dog-days

The original building designed by Thomas Cubitt, the survivor to the Grosvenor Estate in the mid-nineteenth century. It also includes two separate news houses in Grosvenor Gardens Mews North. Letting is through Anthony Lipton and Co, and a rent in the region of £13.50 a sq ft is expected. A good renovation scheme has also been carried out on an interesting property at 8 Guildhall Hill, Norwich, where the developers are Woburn Securities, Ltd. Part of the building was constructed in the early eighteenth century, when it was part of a large quadrangle house probably occupied by a Norwich merchant. This was later split up. No 8, which is the Georgian section facing inwards to a small courtyard, now provides 6,126 sq ft of offices, with a wine bar of about 2,000 sq ft in the basement.

The property, to be called Woburn Court, was acquired from the Post Office last year. Architects for the scheme were Furse and Hayden, and the building is for sale through Philip Noble and Son, of Norwich, and Savills, of London and Norwich at about £25,000. In Newcastle upon Tyne, Hadrian House, the Law Land Company's new development, has been let in its entirety to Deloitte and Co, the chartered accountants, as their Newcastle office. The air-conditioned building, nearing completion, provides about 60,000 sq ft of offices and showrooms. Deloitte will occupy the upper part. The rest, about 24,000 sq

ft of offices and 14,000 sq ft of showrooms, ready for occupation later this year, will be sublet either as a whole or in individual units.

The building, designed by Ronald Cliphase and Partners, is linked to Northumberland Street and Princess Square by pedestrian walkways, which also connect with the new Centre Hotel, MPA House and Manners Station. The House and Partners acted for Law Land as letting agents and consultants, and Dndley C. Chaston and Partners for Deloitte. Both have been retained for the sub-letting.

Woolworths and Littlewoods are both to open new stores in the Arndale Centre, Wandsworth, London, this month. The Woolworths store will be of some 39,000 sq ft, and Littlewoods about 43,500 sq ft. The stores are adjacent and give on to the main shopping mall.

The Arndale Centre itself, developed by Town and City Properties, has frontages both to the High Street and Garratt Lane. Construction of the second and final stage of the scheme is virtually complete and 40 units are available for letting through Healey and Baker and Herring Daw, of London.

Penmett House, on the Penmett Trading Estate, Brierley Hill, West Midlands, claimed to be the first office block in Britain erected solely for letting on an industrial estate, has been completed and two of its six floors have been let. The rest is £1.60 a sq ft. The block has a total floor area of 20,000 sq ft and each floor has 3,000 sq ft. Letting is through Comley and Pitt, the developers, who are also agents.

Kenwood House, in Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, with 1,830 sq ft of retail space and 7,150 sq ft of offices, has been completed by Kenwood Property Holdings, and is available for letting, either as a whole or in parts, or alternatively for sale freehold. The agents are Debenham Tewson and Chinnocks, of London, and Bernard Thorpe and Partners, of Tunbridge Wells.

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MONDAY BOOK

Peter Fleming as the Squire of Nettlebed, 1965... The Henty touch... Peter Fleming

By Duffy Hart-Davis... (Cope, 16) Many remarkable men, especially perhaps men of action, seem slightly exaggerated...

though, did he seem to extend himself. It was not that his manner was too casual, but that his manner was too peripheral...

For if he seemed more than himself, it turns out from this book that he was often rather less. The ideal of the English landed aristocrat...

Most puzzlingly of all, he was a writer of immense talent who never tackled a great subject. He made himself famous with his three pre-war travel books...

With the acquisition of the British production of Jean YVES Les Maids, Ely Landau, President of the American Film Theatre...

Two other British-made films are included in the AFT's second season. One just completed is Joseph Losey's film of Brecht's Gallies starring Topol, Edward Fox, Georgia Brown, John Gielgud and Margaret Leighton...

From France comes the musical Jacques Breil Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris. Hollywood's contribution to the subscription series is Arthur Hiller's film of The Man in the Glass Booth...

Here, in fact, is the whole history of the American West... It is quite amazing the freshness Mr. Michener marries to achieve...

THE ARTS

Cakes and Ale... Stanley Reynolds... The King's Music... Thomas Walker

The centralism of the ancient régime tended to create monopolies, even in music. Lully, the most famous example of aristocrat-manager at the French court...

Swingle II... Queen Elizabeth Hall... Stephen Walsh... Swingle II is of course the successor of the original French Swingle Singers...

Much of this one must read. It is not quite sure how fully he has constructed this tantalizing and fascinating book, how much is design, how much nature and how much camouflage...

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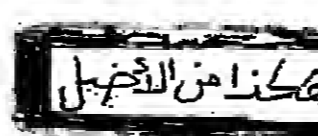
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VICKERS Part of life.

Simonstown: What on earth is all the arguing about?

Lord Chalfont

In the uproar following the recent visit of the Royal Navy to South Africa it is not easy to decide who should be awarded first prize for undiluted bombast—those who want to transport of theatrical rage because a few sailors took advantage of a brief period of shore leave to seek a little rest and relaxation instead of staying on board reading anti-apartheid pamphlets; or the instant clockwork strategists who wound up by the news that Britain might be about to terminate the Simonstown agreement, made mechanical noises to the effect that such an action would deal a mortal blow to the security of the island.

The entire episode was a typically shoddy example of the way in which quite serious issues can be distorted in the pursuit of special political interests. There is little doubt that it was provoked by a small band of left-wing standard-bearers, who, knowing quite well that the continuation of the Simonstown agreement was under consideration as part of the Government's current defence review, decided to make a *cause célèbre* of the exchange of courtesies between the Royal Navy and their South African hosts, calculating that they would in due course be able to claim the "credit" when the agreement was ended. Predictably, certain of the less thoughtful members of the Opposition, unable to resist any opportunity of embarrassing the Government, thundered with flimsy irrelevance about the defence of Britain.

In the course of all this empty posturing, the real issue has become obscured. If the Simonstown agreement is essential to our national security, it would obviously be kept in being, however outrageous may be the behaviour of the South African Government towards the majority of its own citizens.

The original agreement, concluded in 1955, transferred what was then the Simonstown Royal Naval base to South Africa. In an attempt to strengthen the defence of the sea routes around the Cape, it set up a new naval command structure, in which the Royal Navy and the South African Navy were to cooperate under a British Commander-in-Chief, South Atlantic. In 1967, in the course of an earlier defence review, the British commander-in-chief was withdrawn, and the defence of the Cape sea routes became primarily the responsibility of South Africa, with the Royal Navy collaborating.

The thinking behind the original agreement is a fairly straightforward essay in maritime strategy. The route around the Cape, especially since the closure of the Suez Canal, still carries with it the legacy of the way that the imperial powers of the West needed secure sea links with their dependencies in the East. It is still an important trade route.

The conventional naval wisdom is that these routes must therefore be secure against harassment or attack, and that a South African naval base is an essential element in this strategy. In subjecting this proposition to close scrutiny, the first factor of importance to be considered is the extent to which the whole political-strategic context has changed since the 1950s. We have moved into an era dominated by nuclear weapons end by the superpowers and their allies. More recently there have been signs of a relaxation of the tension which characterized the 1960s.

It can be argued that it is now extremely unlikely that the Russians would risk a major conflict by mounting limited naval operations against a western power. On the other hand, there is a perfectly valid counter argument which suggests that the nuclear balance of terror is now so complete that the superpowers have in fact become more likely.

It is true that, since about 1968, the Soviet Union has been increasing its presence in the Indian Ocean, and its general policy of naval expansion. Even now, however, there

is no Russian naval deployment in the area or a scale consistent with any far-reaching military objectives.

Let us, however, assume the worst, and suppose that the Russian ships have a more direct role, and that they might one day interfere with the Cape trade routes, or with its supplies to the West. It is important to be quite clear about the actual forms which such interference might take. Certainly the Soviet Union does not dispose of the naval strength to impose anything like a formal blockade. It could, if it wished, sink western merchant vessels using its submarines.

It is, however, extremely unlikely that it would take any such action except in the context of a general war; and if it did, a general war would not be long delayed. In that case, this crisis would not be confined to Britain and South Africa, and the existence or otherwise of an agreement like the Simonstown base would be irrelevant.

The inescapable conclusion is that, so far as Britain alone is concerned, in circumstances short of war the Simonstown agreement is not vital; in war, it would almost certainly be available anyway. There remains one further argument to consider, namely that it is in the interests of the western alliance as a whole to maintain close cooperation with South Africa in the defence of the region, and that Britain, by tradition, practice and experience, is best suited to take on this part of the collective burden.

Persuasive as it may sound, this proposition runs counter to the whole trend of the military policies pursued by British governments of both parties since the withdrawal from "east of Suez" began. The main weight of British military operations has been irreversibly shifted to the European-Atlantic area, and it is logical that this should be so. Furthermore, the Labour Government has undertaken a radical review of defence spending, which has declared an saving several hundreds of millions of pounds.

It is, of course, possible to entertain very serious doubts about the wisdom, in the present international climate, of this attitude to defence policy. It seems, however, to be accepted by all the major political parties that substantial cuts in defence spending are inevitable. If this is so, it would be perverse to the point of lunacy now to expand our military commitments and obligations in the Indian Ocean to meet Soviet expansion, which probably has more political than directly military significance; and it is surely not surprising that if the Government is seriously considering, as it certainly is, withdrawal from Singapore, Cyprus and Malta, it should also be seriously considering the abandonment of any remaining ovals commitments "east of Simonstown" and with them the consensus among the Government's military advisers is that Simonstown comes under the heading of those military anomalies which are nice to have, but not essential. The probability is that when the results of the defence review finally emerge at the beginning of next year, the Simonstown agreement will be allowed to lapse, although the Royal Navy will almost certainly continue to use the base. The decision may even be announced later this month in the preliminary statement on defence policy. To the normal course of events, its disappearance would not have been a matter of unusual interest. It is significant that when the Labour Government contemplates doing something which makes sense on economic, political, strategic and even moral grounds, its own left wing should provoke the Opposition into Pavlovian party political ructions.

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Attitudes are changing in Moscow, but much depends on the West

Why the Soviet Union is paying the price of détente

President Ford is to meet Mr Brezhnev near Vladivostok next week amid signs that the atmosphere between the West and the Soviet Union is cooling off. How fragile does it look from Moscow?

If there is one dominant impression after a visit to the Soviet Union it is of a country struggling to get out of its shell. The place is seething with foreigners, especially Americans. One can scarcely move without tripping over delegations of American doctors, farmers, Sovietologists, environmentalists, businessmen, politicians, officials, journalists, tourists, or performers. In the other direction, too, more Russian experts pop over to the West to attend conferences or negotiate deals, and if they stay there long enough they come back looking exactly like Americans.

Clearly there has been a very substantial change of attitude at the top of the past few years. There is a new attempt to make contact with the outside world, to take part in international life, and even occasionally to understand the motives and interests of others. But there is obviously a lot of resistance, more of it emotional and historical, but some of it probably political. Russia has always regarded the West with a mixture of fear and fascination, and Western influence has been confined to a small elite. Tsars have kept foreign workers in special ghettos and washed their hands after receiving Western ambassadors.

Even now the old debates between nationalists and Westernizers are far from resolved. They emerged in almost their pure nineteenth century form in the fascinating exchanges between Solzhenitsyn and Sakharov, the same debates lurk in new and varied shapes behind many of the stresses between technocrats and bureaucrats, modernizers and conservatives, liberalizers and neo-Stalinists.

In conversation the impatient technocrat unfolds a vision of computerized automation largely free of bureaucrats and ideology, while someone else, after a few drinks, will fall into a very Russian mixture of patriotism and self-denigration:

"You in the West are sitting down nicely, sipping tea, and the meal while we are still cutting up the meat in the kitchen with blood all over our hands. But that is how we are: that is the Russian way and we must develop at our own speed." One can hear, too, of common people asking whether détente is really worth all the trouble and foreign values that come with it.

Official policy is still to try to have the best of both worlds. On the one hand Mr Brezhnev calls for unrestricted trade with the West, more computers and a network of agreements to make détente irreversible. On the other hand the West is trying to subvert socialism, and that the two systems must develop on different lines without interfering with each other.

Politics thus fluctuate between giving priority to internal security and responding to Western pressures on behalf of Jews and other dissidents. They hesitate between nationalist and internationalist responses to problems such as the energy crisis. Sometimes they seem to express overwhelming confidence that the Soviet system will spread throughout the world; the next moment they betray an acute sense of inferiority, insecurity and defensiveness.

With these conflicts unresolved it might become tempting for the Soviet Union to put up its barriers again and rely on its own resources, but underdeveloped resources. It lacks absolutely nothing except the ability to make use of what it has, and this would come in time if people could be made to work for it. They could continue to look outwards but start taking the maximum advantage of troubles in the Western world—Westernization can have two faces.

The question, therefore, is whether the policies will change in the Soviet Union's external and internal situation that will make a reassessment of détente more difficult or less attractive.

This must depend a lot on what the Soviet Union actually gets from détente. At the moment the leadership is not

shove seeking advantage where it can, but it seems interested primarily in the quiet life and a stable relationship with the United States. Confrontations are risky and expensive. Memories of the war are very much alive. Security is everything.

But security also means keeping up the defence effort. For Soviet government can risk being accused of lowering the nation's guard, especially in a period of bad relations with China. The vulnerability of the country is etched deep in old memories and the military lobbies play on these for all they are worth. On the other hand defence absorbs at least 25 per cent of the gap. This is a heavy burden on a country with enormous internal problems and ambitious plans for opening up the eastern territories. There is an urgent need for western technology and for the other benefits of playing a larger role in world trade. Internal needs now have high priority, and even foreign policy and defence tend to be subordinated to a stronger economy and a broader technological base.

The only way of reconciling security and economic development is to stabilize the arms race with the United States. This is not easy because one eye is always on China, and there are very powerful fears of falling even further behind the United States, but there does seem to be a real wish to prevent the race getting out of hand.

The basic interest in détente is therefore profound, solid and rational, and anyone who doubts the importance which the Soviet Union attaches to it has only to look at the price it has been willing to pay. It has allowed about 90,000 Jews to emigrate and now appears to have committed itself to increasing the flow. It has released its prominent individuals because of western pressure. It has risked alienating communists at home and abroad by fraternizing with a corrupt and unpopular American President. At the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe it has embroiled itself in embarrassing discussions on human rights. It is discussing troop reductions in Europe when it might have tried waiting for the western alliance to waste away. It may have weakened its future control over eastern Europe by dealing with the German hogs. It has exposed its own system to rising expectations and foreign penetration when it might have screwed down the clamps even tighter.

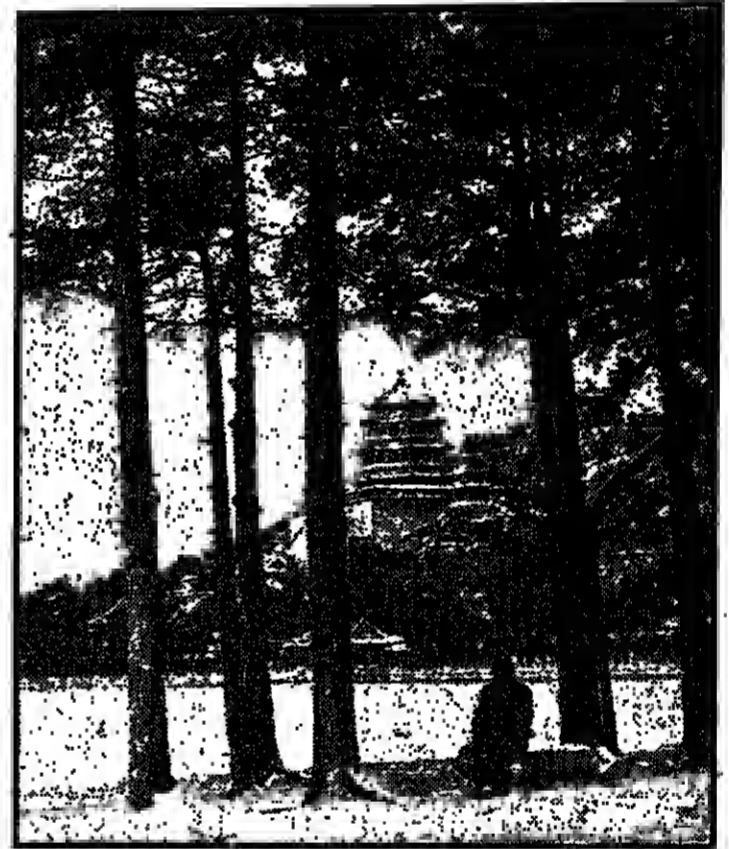
The reason is not, I think, that Mr Brezhnev is omnipotent. It seems far more likely that détente is an all-purpose, coalition policy that can be supported by different people for different reasons, at any rate for a time. To the pragmatist it can be explained as a rational matter of accepting the present limits of Soviet power and diverting resources to internal developments. To Russian nationalists or expansionists it can be explained as a matter of time and resources to build up the power of the Soviet Union, while providing a framework for legitimizing Soviet influence abroad and tilling the West into weakness and insecurity. (This is the dreaded policy of "Finlandization" which is scoffed at by Soviet officials but still haunts western politicians.)

And when an ideological justification is required, as it always is, the reply is that the Soviet model of socialism must be made more attractive by internal development and that in any case détente provides conditions in which socialism can unfold throughout the world, unimpeded by the pressures of a cold war. This is the mirror image of the western theory that détente promotes the democratization of socialism.

With all these different strands in the same policies what matters is their immediate effect. The effect most obvious to the visitor in Moscow is the more recalcitrant communist parties). The arms race had become fruitless and intolerably expensive and the internal problems of the Soviet Union had come to seem insoluble without a lot of western help and a long period of international stability.

Since then it has become tempting to believe that the

Recognizing the importance of China, past and present



The Summer Palace in Peking: "Like Italy", a 1913 writer said.

In the museum in Sian in north-west China a Map of the Tracks of Yu the Great is carved in stone. It shows, with an easily observed accuracy, the coastline of China, including the Shantung peninsula, and with even more accuracy all China's major rivers and their tributaries. It dates from 1137, but was certainly drawn before 1100 and is, as Dr Joseph Needham writes in his monumental *Science and Civilization in China*, "the most remarkable cartographic work of its age in any culture", certainly far more accurate by its use of a rectangular grid system than anything Europe knew.

By the end of the sixteenth century, when Matteo Ricci the Jesuit priest whose long sojourn in China was to be the first fruit of intercourse between the two civilizations, cartography began to flow in one direction. In the awareness of this Chinese past and in acknowledgement of China's regained world eminence *The Times* today publishes its own *Atlas of China*, edited by D. C. Twitchett, Professor of Chinese at Cambridge and Mr F. J. M. Geelani.

In coming to the recent atlases published by *The Times*, much more information than the purely geographical appears in this new volume. The first section is historical. A brief history of the major dynasties—Han, Tang, Sung, Yuan, Ming and Ch'ing, is followed by smaller maps in the appropriate times of China's division or when invaders set up subsidiary regimes in the north. This perspective of the past is rounded out by maps of the Mongol empire which brought China into a relation with the Asian hinterland and opened up the land journey to Europe

in Marco Polo's day. Another small map shows the Ming voyages in the early fifteenth century which took Chinese fleets as far as the Red Sea and the East African coast before the country closed its doors to contact with the outside world again. Finally, the spread of foreign influence in the sixteenth century and the growth of communist power in the post-war period are illustrated.

Then follows 12 double-page spreads accompanied by text and diagrams covering minorities, climate, administrative divisions, frontiers and all kinds of economic data from roads and railways to agriculture, industry, population, trade, minerals and energy.

The map showing the distribution of minorities also charts linguistic areas. Perhaps the most common misconception about China that has grown up in the awareness of this land is that it is a country where many different languages are spoken. Marco Polo could not have got such a false impression on the landward route he took. But when the sea route displaced the land one in the sixteenth century, the Europeans who came would first have struck the south-eastern coast and going from there northwards— from Canton up to Shanghai— would have struck different dialects all the way up the coast. This must have originated this misconception. But draw a line through the coast, and it is possible to see through the populated parts of the country, from the Burms border north-eastwards to the Amur River and one will find Mandarin spoken everywhere, with only such regional differences as would have been found, say, in rural England a century ago

before universal education and the BBC.

The Wade-Giles romanization has been used in preference to the Pinyin system at present adopted in China for the very good reason that it has for long been standard in most western published material and its idiosyncrasies are better comprehended than the scarcely fewer

orthographical territory, an appendix explains and lists all three forms of spelling.

No one turning over the pages of an atlas such as this can escape reflections. There is an obvious distinction between China proper—crowded, industrious, versatile—and the great upland region mostly inhabited by non-Chinese: Sinkiang, Tsinghai, Tibet. Sinkiang's economic development has drawn in thousands of Chinese so that they may catch up with the Muslim Uighur majority. Could central Asia again be a centre of power? Or was the age of Marco Polo and the astonishing century of Mongol dominance of this whole Asian land-mass an unrepeatable combination of power and military technology?

One may consider China's provinces. In Szechuan, the largest in China, population exceeds by far any country in western Europe. Archibald Little in 1905, writing of Szechuan after the Han dynasty, imagined an era when the province seemed to have pursued a career of long-undisturbed prosperity, self-sufficient, producing every natural product that the necessities or luxuries of mankind could demand—but out in a Rasselas valley, as it were, from the seething outside world, and enjoying a soft almost windless climate and an inexhaustible soil.

During the decades of fighting that saw the end of the Ming, and the firm establishment of the Ch'ing dynasty the inhabitants of Szechuan were "totally exterminated". But they recovered. The Chinese have a remarkable capacity for recovery. Could this have been the province of which Goldsworthy Lewis Dickinson, on his dreamy visit to China in 1913,

Richard D

Richard Ha

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The Times Diary

A different kind of Belfast story

day. Barnes hopes to exceed last year's results, where average attendance was more than two-thirds of capacity.

Attendance at Saturday's walk was higher than anyone had expected. About 100 people gathered in the foyer of the University building to meet Hugh Dixon, a young, hard-edged, architect-historian in a fetching bicorne hat, who was our guide. On the way in, the first thing we saw was the destruction wrought on the plant festival trifolds on the lawn outside, believed to be student rather than communal vandalism.

From the university building—a red-brick, elongated version of Magdalen College, Oxford— Dixon's point of view—the palm house in the Botanic Garden, dating from the 1830s, and possibly the earliest surviving example in the world of a linear glass and iron construction. Although the City Corporation have agreed to restore the house as their contribution to Architectural Heritage Year, Dixon, a keen conservationist, pointed out that it was swiftly

falling into had disrepair. Dozens of panes of glass are broken—and the services of glaziers are at a premium in present-day Belfast.

Despite the uncomfortable wind, and temperatures which fell sharply as the afternoon wore on, the bulk of the walkers stayed with the mur of buildings from the last century. Most were churches, but Dixon occasionally stop in point out to his shivering disciples a piece of "mid-Victorian gothicism" on a terrace of houses, and other oddities.

We passed a number of barriers, made from oil drums fixed to the road, to keep cars and thus car bombs out of the university complex. We saw what is hard to persuade people to up their buildings, many of which have already sustained bomb damage. Yet we were given plenty of reminders of the present violent conflict.

Then we came to what was clearly the highlight of the tour, from Dixon's point of view—the glass and iron structure of the Palm House in the Botanic Garden, dating from the 1830s, and possibly the earliest surviving example in the world of a linear glass and iron construction. Although the City Corporation have agreed to restore the house as their contribution to Architectural Heritage Year, Dixon, a keen conservationist, pointed out that it was swiftly

Inside our final church—where it was hardly warmer than outside—Dixon asked his followers if they would come back next week if he changed the route slightly. They said they would, so he said he would try to change it, and if you are in the area I can recommend it.

Even if you are not in the area, British Airways do cheap weekend flights from the mainland. When you have finished the walk, you can go and roll in foam at the festival foam break-out at the Students' Union, before hearing the Ulster Orchestra play Mozart and Schubert in the evening. You need not hear about the day's killings until you get home.

Shame

It will take French winners and allied trades a long time to live down the shame of the Bordeaux wine trial, with its revelations about the alarming things done to wine in the name of sound business practice. Receiving an invitation to visit the brandy producers of Armagnac, I asked Stuart Reid to go to find out what, if any, terrible things they were flinging into my favourite distilleries.

If you probe hard enough you can detect an underlying tension in Armagnac. Home sales have been hit by the postal strike, and the Bordeaux scandal is deeply disturbing to everyone remotely connected with the business.

The Bordeaux affair, like wife hearing, is a subject that has to be raised tactfully in the wine growing regions. The commercial director of the largest Armagnac cooperative—speak-

Maths lesson

Businessmen and diplomats know that one of the main difficulties of working abroad is the education of their children. They can be set back badly by having to adjust to a local school and language.

For some, this problem has been eliminated by the existence of British schools on the Continent. There are six of these—in Bonn, Brussels, The Hague, Milan, Rome—where some 3,500 pupils.

Unlike their French and West German counterparts, they receive no Government money and charge exorbitant fees. This was a group of board members and headmasters from all six establishments met in Brussels to examine how to remedy this difficulty.

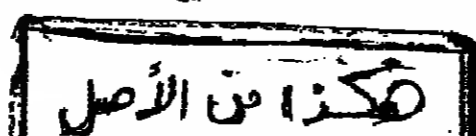
No miracle formula was found, and the likely British referendum on EEC membership is a psychological obstacle. But they agreed to step up efforts to persuade the Government of the value of British schools abroad to the British commercial effort.

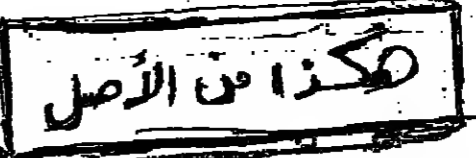
It is hard to see a Labour Government voting funds for private fee-paying schools abroad. But nobody would be

happier than expatriate Brit end their employers if the schools ceased to be fee-paying. At the British School Brussels, which has built up 1,150 pupils in its four year existence, those parents subsidized by employers had to stump up £900 a year for small children—a staggering amount for a day school.

Reform, the magazine of the United Reformed Church reports that a church in Ma Chester is closing because "lack of money and dwindling congregations".

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CRITERIA FOR THE BUDGET

The shape of tomorrow's budget is already decided. So it is too late to give further advice to the Chancellor. It is, however, useful to be clear about the criteria for judging the announcements when they are made tomorrow afternoon.

It is not practical because accelerating inflation would bring inflation sooner rather than later to a rate which erodes the real purchasing power of incomes faster than Government can augment them by yet further tranches of inflationary public finance.

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Decision-taking in Parliament and the Church

From the Bishop of London Sir, It is difficult to understand what Bishop Eastaugh is asking for in his stranga letter to you (November 7) on the subject of the Prayer Book (Worship and Doctrine) Measure.

From Miss Moira Constable Sir, Since the beginning of this year Shelter has been investigating the question of tied housing, and our findings are to be published in a report on November 14. As Mr Gemmill points out (Letters, November 2) the system operates in a large number of industries and occupations.

From Mr R. J. R. Trefusis Sir, How welcome it is to see Bishop Eastaugh's letter to your today's issue (November 7) on this important subject. Writing as Chairman of this laity-orientated group, we warmly support so much of what the Bishop has to say.

WHAT ABOUT THE MERITS OF THE CASE?

The French have become rather over-excited about the affair of General Stelin. All he did was say that a French aircraft was not as good as its main American competitors. One might have expected some examination of the merits of his argument but instead he has been called a traitor and forced to resign as Vice-President of the National Assembly.

This should not only rally popular support to the otherwise rather demoralized Gaullists, but also help to widen differences between the Atlanticist reformers of M Lecanuet and the Independent Republicans of President Giscard d'Estaing. The Gaullists know they are onto a good thing because General de Gaulle's foreign policy does enjoy very wide support on the left and the right, and if the President can now be tarred with the Atlanticist brush he will be in for a difficult time.

Ultimately only two things are important—that Nato should have the best aircraft for its needs, and that as many countries as possible should have the same aircraft. At present the effectiveness of the alliance is seriously undermined by a crazy quilt of incompatible weapons and conflicting procurement policies.

David Wood

Labour left comes under Cabinet curbs

The new Parliament may be no more than a fortnight old, but it is not too soon to begin noting the signs that the Labour left turns out to be less dominant than it claimed to be of appeared to be. Mr Wilson has firmly, if amiably, exacted full observance of the doctrine of collective responsibility from three ministers who wanted to go their own way in Labour's national executive committee.

indemnified Labour councillors in those terms, laying the burden of the surcharge upon ratepayers or council house tenants. But he has not absolved the Clay Cross councillors, whom the left had particularly in mind. His Bill will lift from them their statutory disqualification to serve as councillors; the surcharge on them is not to be restricted. The Cabinet has defied the motion carried by the 1973 party conference.

There is to be curbed. Reflection is to be reserved for the private sector of industry, to increase profitability, to stimulate investment, and to encourage exports. The pet projects of the Labour left are to be put on short commons.

BBC's election coverage

From Sir Michael Woodruff, FRS Sir, In your report concerning criticisms of the BBC by Labour Party politicians you quote Mr Ronald Hayward as asking: "Are political parties in a democratic country going to be allowed to run election campaigns or are they going to be run by the media?"

The uses of Simonstown

From Mr Patrick Wall, Conservative MP for Halespines Sir, The facts behind the Simonstown Agreement are these: (i) One million tons of oil a day destined for the West pass Cape Town.

Fund for the disabled

From Mr Austen Spearing Sir, The need for a new look at the way we care for the handicapped is well illustrated by the case of the boy aged six whose case you report (November 2).

Currency for travel

From Mr T. E. Platt Sir, Sir George Young speaks irresponsibly when he says that we are "only a few weeks away from a devastating rush on the pound which may well result in massive restrictions on foreign travel".

The rural landscape

From Dr D. M. Palliser Sir, Your admirably balanced editorial on conflicting rural land uses (October 31) rightly points out the cultivated landscape is not immortal but "an artificial creation".

Clergy live longer

From Mr J. W. Staddon Sir, The letter from the Rev Michael Bennett (November 7) reminds me that about five decades ago I found myself perusing a national geographic list to which the parson and the agricultural labourer headed the long lists while the butcher and the barterer, then so-called, were at the tail.

West's fuel and 25 per cent of its food pass the Cape.

These figures will not be greatly altered when the Suez Canal is reopened. The Suez Canal reduces the Soviet fleet's steaming time to the Indian Ocean by 70 per cent but makes little difference to the United States.

West's fuel and 25 per cent of its food pass the Cape.

Clearly this agreement brings great advantages to Britain and her Nato allies in an area which is now becoming the key to world maritime strategy. It is all this to be lost in order to appease the left-wing of the Labour Party?

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It is up to the community to end the crisis in our hospitals

A year ago Dr Catherine Oppenheimer was invited by the board of Governors of the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, to undertake a twelve-month assignment as Medical Admissions Officer.

In this article Dr Oppenheimer draws a precise and disturbing picture of the pressures now affecting one of Britain's major hospitals.

There has been a lot of talk recently about the imminent breakdown of the country's hospital service. The post which I held for a year gave me a clear and concrete picture of what is happening in one major hospital. The story I have to tell is no one person's fault. On the contrary, everyone involved has been trying for years to maintain an adequate service: but as a result of public and political neglect, the scope for manoeuvre becomes less each year.

Briefly, the problem in Oxford is a severe shortage of beds. The Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford's principal hospital, has the responsibilities both of a district general hospital (with no similar institution near by to share the load) and of a teaching and specialist centre. The Churchill Hospital is essentially a collection of specialist units which admit their own emergencies (such as gynaecology, renal dialysis, neurology) and is not equipped to take general cases throughout the 24 hours.

Besides these there are the orthopaedic, maternity and psychiatric hospitals, and the geriatric hospital, which is so short—general hospital is being built, but its opening date, already many times delayed, is now put at 1978. Because it offers specialist services, the Radcliffe has no defined catchment area, and any doctor anywhere who chooses to refer his patient there for consultant care may do so. At the same time, because there is nowhere else in the locality to send general emergencies and accidents, the Radcliffe has never turned away such cases.

Over the year the proportion of patients who come as emergencies has risen. Sixty per cent of our patients now enter in this way—general and uncontrollable. Naturally the numbers fluctuate: the daily average for emergencies is 33 patients, but once or twice a month the number exceeds 50. Together with waiting list cases, we may admit up to 100 patients in a day. There are 517 beds in the hospital: a fifth of the beds, therefore, may turn over in a single day. This is reflected in the official statistics as a high throughput and a very short average length of stay; indeed, the figures are quoted with admiration, as an example to the rest of the country.

But the admiration is misplaced. Normally, a hospital deals with an unexpectedly large influx of emergencies by "borrowing" beds from different wards. Thus, medical emergencies may be lodged in surgical wards, and sometimes the patients who have been sent for to occupy those beds the next day will have to be cancelled at short notice. The Radcliffe has long passed the stage of using these as crisis measures: they are a daily routine.

When we have borrowed all the available Radcliffe beds in that way, and still need more

room for emergencies, we have to shift patients to the Churchill or discharge them sooner than is medically advisable. They may even have to sit out of bed immediately to make room—although the ambulances cannot take them away for several hours. Sometimes, patients who have been sent to the Churchill become too sick to be cared for there, and have to be brought back to the Radcliffe.

In one sense, such crises represent a breakdown in planning. But the only way of planning, in advance, for more room to accommodate emergencies is to reduce the number of patients sent for from the waiting list. From January this year I had to restrict routine surgical work so that the number of patients sent for each week fell from the normal 100 or so to an average of 70; even then, three or four a week had to be cancelled at short notice. Thus, about 1,500 patients a year are failing to have surgical treatment for their hernias, varicose veins, or gall bladders.

This is reflected statistically in lengthening waiting lists, but only in part: some doctors are now refusing to put such patients on the waiting list at all. In their eyes, it is a false promise to the patients of treatment which will never, in fact, be carried out. Patients who are on the list live in discomfort or at risk, or are unable to work until they are operated on.

So, the 40 per cent of our admissions that are elective (as opposed to emergencies) are those with the most urgent conditions. When we have to cancel even these at short notice, the dilemma becomes still worse—a choice between one tumour or another, or a condition causing disabling pain. How can one turn such patients away? So they are admitted, and patients already in hospital have to be bundled out even sooner than planned to make room for them.

The busy discharges, and the constant shifting of patients from ward to ward and hospital to hospital, is not only very bad for the patients; it is also intensely demoralizing for staff, especially the nurses. They know that under such pressure they cannot do their best for the patients, cannot rehabilitate, comfort, or even talk to them. They are reduced to processing them through as rapidly as possible. It should be added, incidentally, that there are only 12 private beds in the Radcliffe; they contribute to the total pool and are frequently occupied by NHS patients.

During the next few years, at a minimum until the new hospital opens, the Radcliffe will be forced to continue to choose between its patients. Reluctantly it has chosen neglect for those with non-lethal surgical conditions, and haste and discomfort for the convalescent. The remainder are all patients with priority claims on the hospital's facilities, either as emergencies or needing urgent preoperative treatment, and the Radcliffe will have to choose between these. There will not be room for them all.

If our situation is typical of the NHS, there will be nowhere else for them to go, and our dilemmas will be facing the whole country. In the end, the problem is not medical but social and political. It is for the community to decide how much should be spent on hospitals and nursing homes. Our duty as doctors is to try to make people understand what this decision will mean to them when they fall ill.

Soaring juvenile crime, truancy, violence and mental illness rates are indicators of the ill-health of our society. Two books recently published—provide a yardstick to measure how quickly—in just a generation—we have come to accept such ills as commonplace.

Both Louis Heren and Dorothy Scannell grew up in the East End in the years just after the First World War. Both their families were poor. Mrs Scannell's father had ten children and an income, as a plumber, of 35 shillings a week. Mr Heren's mother was a widow who kept a canteen's pull-up to support her three children.

They may have been among the deprived families of the last generation, but their books portray an enviable and ordered world, in which the streets around them were their playground, their community, and their introduction to life. Their world is gone now, replaced by tower blocks and wasteland, but the patterns of that vanished society are worth more than a nostalgic backward look—they offer ideas about the things some of our increasingly difficult children are missing.

Striking differences between then and now run right through family life as well as society in general. And the most striking change is in the attitude to authority. Within the family, authority was absolute and unquestioned, though apparently not based on fear or physical violence. "She never hit us... when we were playing in the road she just had to come to the door and we knew to come in at once," says Mrs Scannell. How many families today would boast automatic obedience like that from their children?

In school, although there was great material hardship for children who were cold, shoeless and hungry, both authors remember the happiness and excitement of the place, and the effortless authority enjoyed by the teachers. Teachers in the East End now battle to keep order and can have little chance to do the sort of teaching which gives children to enter the world and better it. "Then the intellectual atmosphere (if you can really call it intellectual) was that political action could change things and improve life. There was none of the political apathy at a local level which is so impoverishing today," says Mr Heren.

Why society needs to preserve the neighbourly spirit of the back streets

Successful attempts to get out of the poverty of the East End in the last generation were probably more numerous than is normally realized. Since his book came out earlier this year Mr Heren has had more than 500 letters from people whom he calls ex-Cockneys like himself, who have left the East End for the middle-class. Reading them he was struck by the contrast with America. "The opportunity to get on is here, but, as one talks about it, it isn't part of our national mythology, whereas in America it is an aspect of their society they are proud of—quite rightly."

The loss of dynamism in the East End seems to be put down by both authors to the bad architectural and planning decisions which killed community life of the streets, and with it, patterns of accepted authority and values. But both authors bring up something else which is gone—religion. Mrs Scannell's family went to church three times on Sunday and often during the week. Mr Heren says he cannot remember a single family he knew not going to church or to the synagogue. "The church was our centre—all the boys' clubs and activities started there."

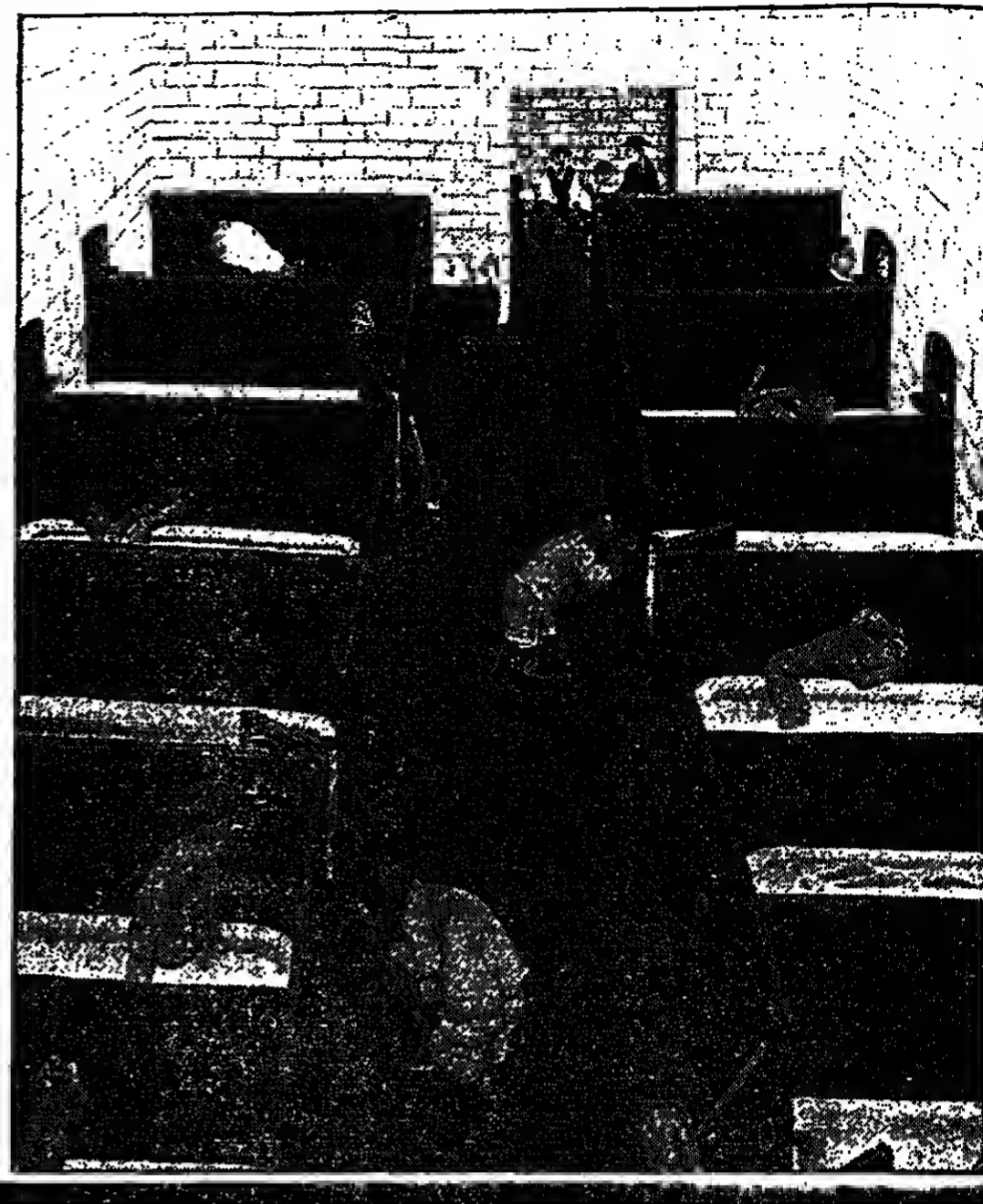
Both authors try not to over-romanticize the past, and both see a good deal to envy in the wealth of opportunities open to children today. But Mr Heren at any rate identifies some new burdens, in particular the selfishness which the prevailing ethic now allows. Another is the increased greed and ludicrous aspirations fed by advertisements and television. "When I was a kid the movies were all glamour and fantasy and you didn't aspire to it. Now television pretends to be everyday life and within reach of your aspirations."

A lyrical description of childhood holidays in Hastings with his mother is the best part of Mr Heren's book, and provides the most poignant look at a past where desires were simple and pleasures were nothing to do with shopping and speeding money.

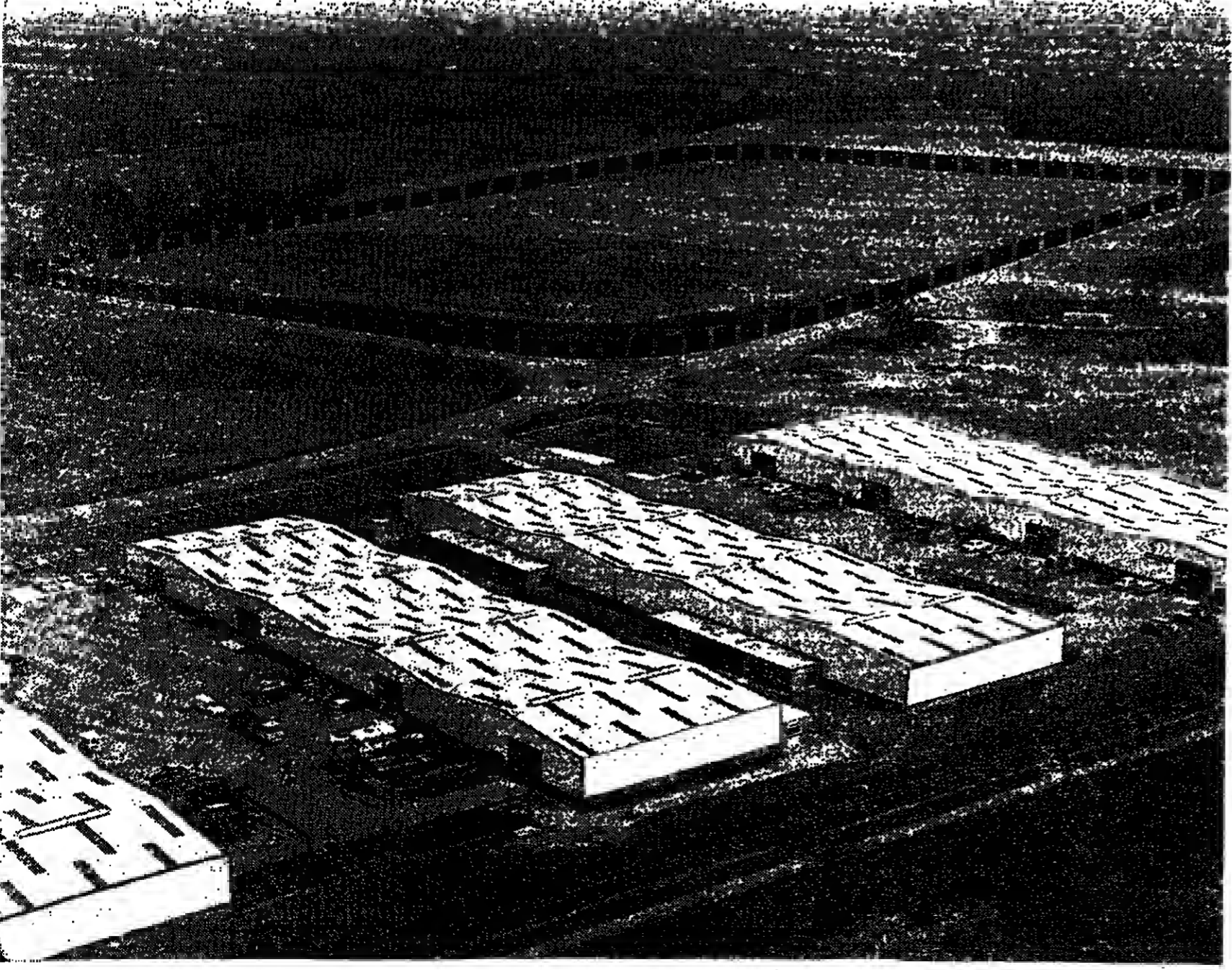
In a society based on consuming it is hard to imagine any more holidays like those, but in some other respects Londoners seem to be beginning to value and cling on to the past. Looking out of his office in the Gray's Inn Road, with Bloomsbury to the west and Islington

must come back, but it can only do so with better planning." *Growing up Poor in London*, by Louis Heren, Hamish Hamilton, £2.50. *Mother Knew Best*, by Dorothy Scannell, Macmillan, £2.50. *Victoria Britain*

Bath Scene by John Allan from "Say Goodbye: You May Never See Them Again", with text by Arnold Wesker, published by Jonathan Cape, at £2.50.



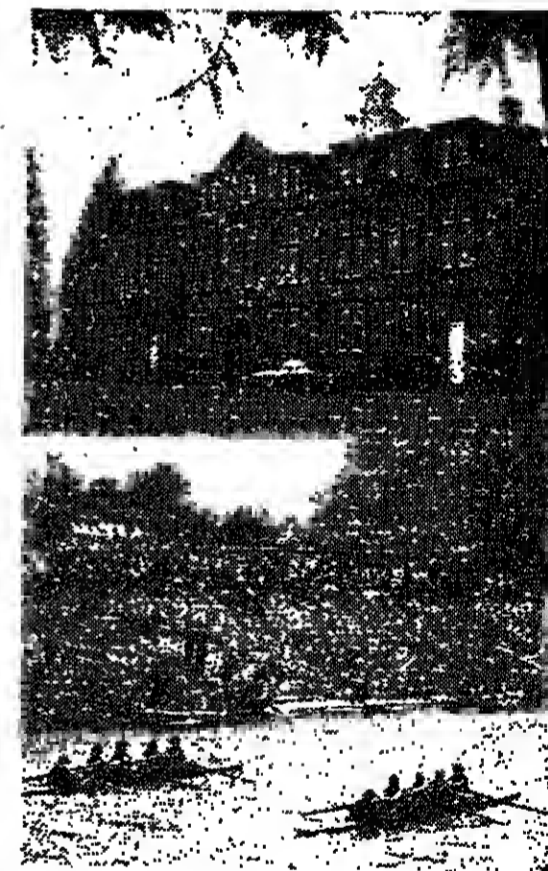
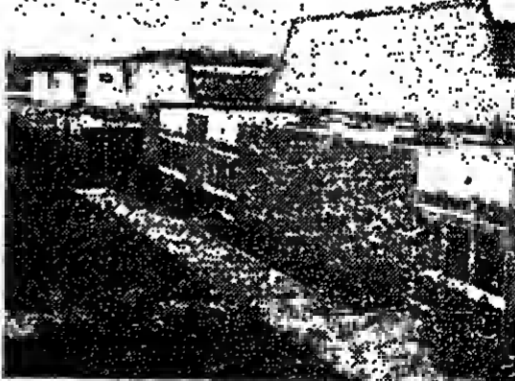
BKL have been doing a little siteseeing in Telford



BKL Alloys Ltd., a subsidiary of G.K.N., have picked Telford for expansion.

A £5 million aluminium recycling plant, the most modern in the world, is under construction on a 28 acre site at Stafford Park.

Room for expansion now and in the future was only one reason for BKL's decision to move to Telford.



They knew the qualities of a workforce built up by Telford's unique Homes and Jobs Plan. And the speed with which Telford Development Corporation handles all aspects of large and small factory relocation.

Telford is near the heart of the motorway system, just over two hours from London and 45 minutes from Birmingham.

Good housing, educational and recreational facilities make Telford good for business.

Come siteseeing with us in Telford.

Contact Bob Tilmouth, Commercial Director.

 **Telford Development Corporation**

Priorslee Hall, Telford, Shropshire. Phone: Telford (0952) 613131. Telex: 35359.

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Work of ecumenical body brings greater Anglican unity

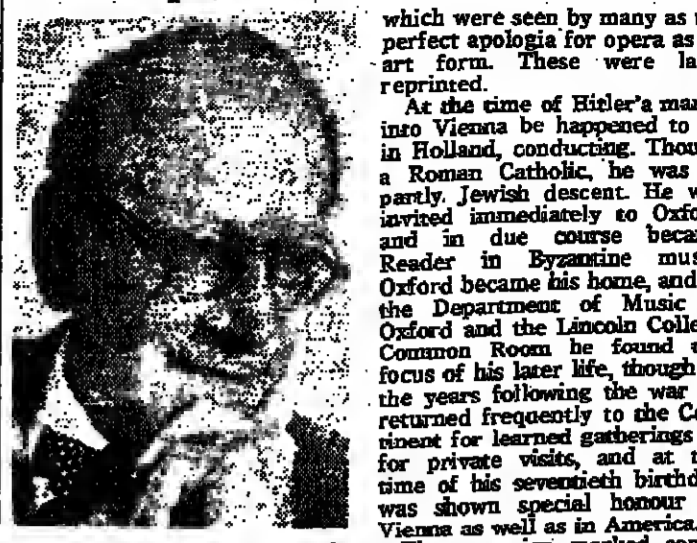
By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent
The extraordinary warmth of the reception given by the General Synod of the Church of England...

Methodist unity scheme. There is a real danger of some parts of the High Church party finding themselves in a position which is more painful than the Pope's...

The subcommittee described the church under the heading: "It will be catholic, knowing how to express what is universal in the Christian message..."

OBITUARY DR EGON WELLESZ

Composer and music historian



Dr Egon Wellesz, CBE, who died on Saturday, aged 89, was a musician and musicologist of international reputation...

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. D. C. Henderson and Miss O. A. Andersson
The engagement is announced between Mr R. D. C. Henderson...

Appointments in the Forces

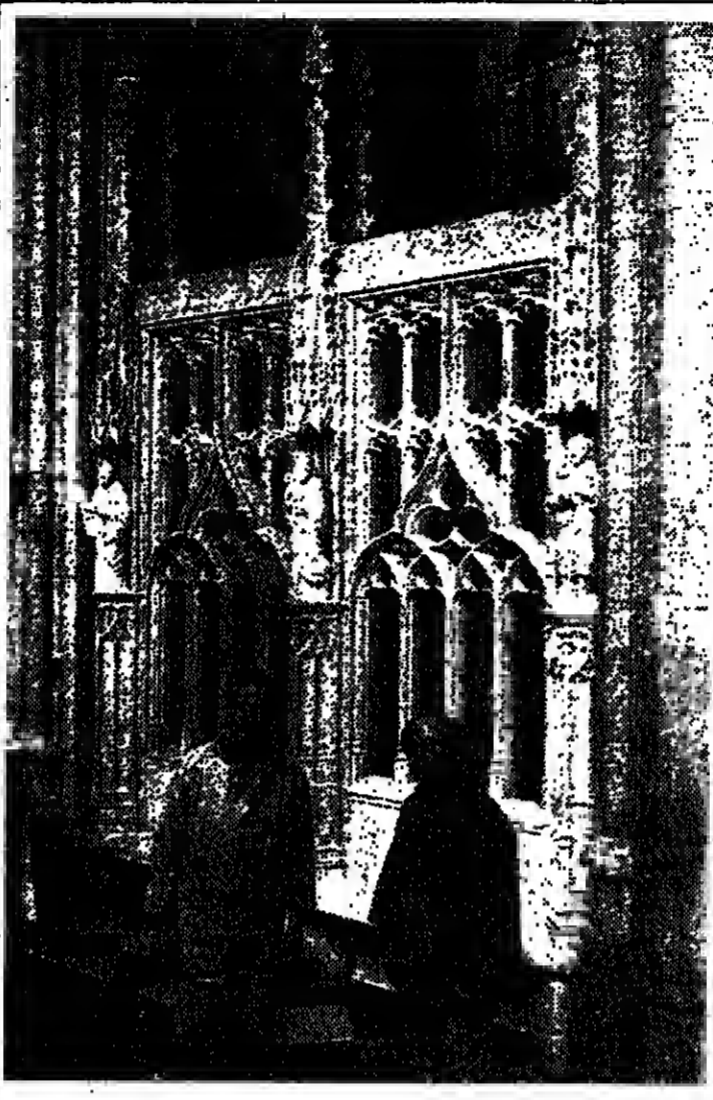
Royal Navy
Mr G. M. C. Walker, MBE, MOD Operational Test Director...

25 years ago

From The Times of Thursday, New York, Nov. 9. The Democrats scored many striking victories...

Church news

The Ven T. G. A. Baker, Archdeacon of Bath and Prebendary of Yatton, is to be Dean of Worcester...



A stone screen which has just been completed at Downside Abbey, near Bath, is the result of a year's work by Mr Peter Watts...

Parliamentary Diary

House of Lords
Tuesday, November 5: Church Harbour Bill, Eastbourne Harbour Bill...

House of Commons

Monday, November 4: Statement on South Africa and EEC matters, Debate on the EEC...

Dinners

Albany Motor Yacht Club
The annual dinner of the Albany Motor Yacht Club, based at Thames Ditton, Surrey...

Service dinner

Royal Fusiliers
The annual dinner of the Royal Fusiliers Officers' Club was held in the Army and Navy Club...

Latest wills

Latest estates include (not before duty paid; further duty may be payable on some estates):

£50,000 winner

The weekly £50,000 Premium Savings Bond prize, announced on Saturday, was won by number 17172764. The winner lives in Liverpool. The £25 1/2 million winners are:

Parliamentary Notices

House of Lords
Tomorrow at 2.30: Motion on Channel Tunnel Bill...

Diocese of Chester

The Rev G. M. Evans, vicar of St. Andrew's, Chester, has been appointed to the vacant post of vicar of St. Andrew's, Chester...

Diocese of Gibraltar

The Rev G. M. Evans, vicar of St. Andrew's, Chester, has been appointed to the vacant post of vicar of St. Andrew's, Chester...

Professor Alexander Bickel

Professor Alexander Bickel, of Yale University, a legal scholar and author of the book 'The Least Dangerous Branch'...

Professor Finberg

Mr Warwick Gould writes: One notable achievement of Professor H. P. R. Finberg is missing from the obituary of November 5...

Science report

Lead: Levels in Glasgow tapwater

Elimination of domestic water by lead is related to the of the houses involved. A study in suburban Glasgow by a scientist and a scientist who...

Maize presents an impressive picture as acreage expands rapidly

Agriculture

By A Correspondent
A new and spectacular crop has been dominating the autumn scene...

By a correspondent

Maize is not a difficult crop provided careful attention is paid to one or two critical factors. It is essential, for instance, to remember that maize is an arable crop...

Professor Finberg

The book itself was a splendid production, with gold stamped white buckram boards, hieratic line drawings and typographic symbols all designed by Thomas Sturge Moore...

Professor Finberg

Brigadier Kenneth Mackay, CBE, DSO, formerly of the Royal Engineers, has died, aged 73. He was twice mentioned in dispatches in the 1929-45 war and served in Greece, Crete, the Western Desert, North Africa and north-west Europe.

Science report

Lead: Levels in Glasgow tapwater

Those in the older houses was the more reduced. The results of public attention has been focused on the dangers of air pollution by lead (at such places as "Spaghetti Junction") and lead is more readily absorbed through the lungs than through the gut...

Science report
Lead: Levels in Glasgow tapwater
Those in the older houses was the more reduced...

Professor Finberg
The book itself was a splendid production, with gold stamped white buckram boards...

Chartered Surveyors Planning Consultants

Womersley Jones

DRIVERS JONES

Stock Exchange Prices

Capitalization & week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin Today. Dealings End Nov 22. Contango Day, Nov 25. Settlement Day, Dec 3.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days. (Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

Advertisement for stainless steel ring with 'SHEPHEARD' and 'HEAT TREATING' text.

Table with columns for Stock, Price, Change, Gross Div, and Yield. Includes sections for BRITISH FUNDS and COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN.

Table with columns for Stock, Price, Change, Gross Div, and Yield. Includes sections for LOCAL AUTHORITIES and FOREIGN STOCKS.

Table with columns for Stock, Price, Change, Gross Div, and Yield. Includes sections for DOLLAR STOCKS and BANKS AND DISCOUNTS.

Table with columns for Stock, Price, Change, Gross Div, and Yield. Includes sections for BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES and RUBBER.

Table with columns for Stock, Price, Change, Gross Div, and Yield. Includes sections for MISCELLANEOUS and SHIPPING.

Table with columns for Capitalization, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, and Yield. Includes section for COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

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Keith Cardale, Groves & Co. Chartered Surveyors

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

State industries' huge investment programmes

... investment programmes... state industries... huge investment programmes... state industries' huge investment programmes...

Top bankers to discuss protection of dollar

... protection of dollar... top bankers... discuss protection of dollar... top bankers to discuss protection of dollar...

Mr Benn considers full takeover of NVT after Small Heath setback

... Mr Benn considers full takeover of NVT after Small Heath setback... Mr Benn considers full takeover of NVT after Small Heath setback...

Gulf states act to cut profits of oil companies

... Gulf states act to cut profits of oil companies... Gulf states act to cut profits of oil companies...

Shadow over Electricity Council

... shadow over Electricity Council... shadow over Electricity Council... shadow over Electricity Council...

New dispute keeps Llanwern at standstill

... new dispute keeps Llanwern at standstill... new dispute keeps Llanwern at standstill...

UCS liquidator urges state aid for creditors

... UCS liquidator urges state aid for creditors... UCS liquidator urges state aid for creditors...

BSC opposes interim report on closures

... BSC opposes interim report on closures... BSC opposes interim report on closures...

Spanish bank floats issue to raise £37m

... Spanish bank floats issue to raise £37m... Spanish bank floats issue to raise £37m...

Fresh round of aluminium price increases

... fresh round of aluminium price increases... fresh round of aluminium price increases...

Executive salaries show little relation to turnover

... executive salaries show little relation to turnover... executive salaries show little relation to turnover...

Second attempt at saving Channel Tunnel Bill

... second attempt at saving Channel Tunnel Bill... second attempt at saving Channel Tunnel Bill...

On other pages

Table with 2 columns: Page number and Title (e.g., Appointments vacant 10, Business appointments 22)

Final date for IBM anti-trust charges expected next month

... final date for IBM anti-trust charges expected next month... final date for IBM anti-trust charges expected next month...

Spanish bank floats issue to raise £37m

... Spanish bank floats issue to raise £37m... Spanish bank floats issue to raise £37m...

Second attempt at saving Channel Tunnel Bill

... second attempt at saving Channel Tunnel Bill... second attempt at saving Channel Tunnel Bill...

Abu Dhabi, Nov 10.—Three Gulf oil states today announced a plan to cut profits made by the international oil companies and said this should bring down the cost of oil for the consumer.

ALBERT EMBANKMENT S.E.1

Entire self-contained Office building Approx 30,000 sq.ft. TO LET

Prestige Warehouse building with ancillary Offices Approx 223,500 sq.ft. TO LET

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Problems for North Sea small fry

For some at least of the so-called "second line" North Sea oil companies the whole risk-reward scenario has changed for the worse. Word has it that some are planning to get out of the situation. Apparently, these include not only the Canadian companies, whose dash for the exit has been almost unopposed. Some of the home-based groups may well be moving in that direction, too.



Mr Robert Outhwaite, chairman of Grattan Warehouses; market share to decline.

At the start of this year, second-line oil companies—those whose principal trading interests are not in oil—were full of enthusiasm over the North Sea. Shares were valued on multiples of prospective North Sea earnings rather than on those from existing trading interests, or on assets.

Some obviously did not have the balance-sheet strength necessary to gear-up for the North Sea, but the assumption was that the cost of their participation in oil consortia would be met by off-balance-sheet finance secured against the oil reserves. The non-recourse financing package fixed up for BP's Forties field and for the Thomson Piper field will prove to be this exception rather than the rule, however.

First, it seems that even those British banks who are still nominally willing to lead to other North Sea consortia on technical reasons. Their books are all wrong for this type of lending. Heavy existing long-term commitments to sectors such as property render it imprudent to say the least, to weight lending maturities much more towards the long-term without matching deposits.

Quite apart from this, inflation has played havoc with original estimates of financing companies. North Sea participations, typically, have risen by a third or more while, on the other side of the equation, the volatility of Middle East oil prices and rising world stocks has made the return on investment much more of a guessing game. This is not to mention the as yet unquantified threat of state participation in existing North Sea licences via the British National Oil Corporation and the possibility of a penal profits tax.

True, OPEC crude prices could still fall a long way before the North Sea became unprofitable, and the Government tax will presumably be on a flexible basis, if not actually on a sliding scale. To ensure a commercial return for the exploration companies (and for the state). But this is hardly the point. It is the second-line stocks are concerned. Even before a drop of oil is extracted, they are committed to exploration costs which typically might be around £2m in the case of a company involved in a consortium drilling four wells simultaneously.

No sensible banker would put up any money until reserves have been proven, and the cost of this exercise looks increasingly likely to prove unprofitable in terms of the cash-flow of the smaller second-line prospects.

So, to whom do these second force groups sell out, either an outright sale of their stake, or of their oil share in return for an underwriting of their borrowings. When the North Sea looked like being an undiluted commercial success the United Kingdom majors were known to be sympathetic, anxious even, to buy out the second-lineers.

Now they are looking with a much more jaundiced eye at new North Sea exploration, when state participation terms are less onerous elsewhere in the world. The United States majors are equally reluctant without a specific assurance that the BNOIC will not make too greedy a state grab.

bold textile sales is reported—by the retailers—to be very buoyant, although their suppliers talk in terms of a possible autumn and much more hopeful signs for spring. The other side of the picture is that Grattan, for one, appears to be holding back its sales growth in an attempt to curtail the rapid increase in borrowings necessary to finance it. This accords with Grattan's image as the most conservatively managed of the companies in the sector, but in the current climate margin control and very rapidly rising costs are likely to have a more than countervailing effect on earnings and the status of its shares.

The inescapable conclusion from all this, particularly for the smaller investor, is to stick to the blue chips in the North Sea—the BP and Shell of this world who have plentiful liquidity still, despite working capital escalation. Others, like Thomson, with proven reserves, and the finance to exploit them, are obviously a relatively safe bet also. We should know soon, too, the terms of the Ninian field financing package put together by the Bank of Scotland consortium. Here National Carbonising and Cawoods are among the participants. It would be invidious at this stage to single out others but the general advice to all but the speculatively-minded must be to steer clear.

Mail order Market shares

The mail order retailers are now in a position to look back on the most crucial of their two selling seasons, and not all of them can be happy with what they see. There is, apparently, no truth in the rumour that the normal surge of pre-Christmas orders has totally failed to materialize. The customers are still coming back for more, even to those firms who discovered to their chagrin last time that orders timed for delivery weeks previously were still in the tender case of the Post Office or British Rail well into the new year.

There is, however, some truth in the stories of changing trading patterns. Not that mail order groups are losing out to their high street competitors. But they do appear to be losing out to one another. In particular, Littlewoods is believed to be gaining market share; so is Freemans (London, SW9); and Grattan—as the interim results also plainly indicated—is losing it.

This is in part a reflection of trading emphasis. All the mail order companies are finding that the demand for larger consumer durables has come off sharply, and some find that the demand for the smaller white goods and kitchen appliances still exists, their supply is for one reason or another—for example, the troubles at Hoover—somewhat curtailed. Sales of footwear, in which area Grattan is believed to be particularly strong, have also come off sharply. On the other hand the trend in clothing and house-

Accountancy Social snags

Accountancy Social snags

Last week the professional accountancy bodies revealed that they were going to square one to re-examine the scope and aims of published financial reports in the light of modern needs and conditions. Such a move has, in fact, been on the cards for some time. It is the result of a decision to set up a working party had to wait until last week it was probably because the pressure to cope with specific accounting abuses in the past three or four years has been particularly heavy. Hence, the urgency that has recently to the activities of the Accounting Standards Steering Committee.

The question now, however, is what the working party can hope to achieve by June 1975 when publication of its first report is due. It is clear that the news of its formation has sort of controversy that has dogged the attempt to introduce inflation accounting. The working party is committed to tackling some of the thornier economic issues including the definition of income—hardly a subject on which even a group consisting solely of accountants is likely to reach rapid agreement. More interestingly, it expects to pay special attention to the social aspect of accounting.

To one sense the preoccupation with social matters looks like it has been levelled at the Trueblood Report, which emerged from a similar exercise in the United States, is that it concentrated unduly on the narrower interests of management, shareholders and other commercial users of accounts. Moreover, members of the British Government have made it abundantly clear in recent months that they want to see more openness.

Whether accountants are ideally equipped to provide answers to social questions is another matter. To put the point more bluntly, someone is bound to ask whether it is right for the professional accountancy bodies to lay down mandatory standards which industry will have to follow when those standards do not confine themselves to the area in which accountants are acknowledged experts.

For it appears that the intention at this stage is to produce a blueprint for financial reports which will go through a similar process to the original inflation accounting proposals, starting with a discussion paper, moving on to an exposure draft, and finally reaching the point of a statement of standard practice.

That is not to say that the accountants should sidestep the issues. Clearly some attempt has to be made. But they are moving far further into political and social territory and, as in the case of inflation accounting, some controversy over what should be left to the legislators and what should be left to the profession looks inevitable.

Few subjects have generated such a prolific correspondence as the controversy over the tax treatment of stock appreciation. In view of the subjects relevant to Mr Healey's Budget on Tuesday, we have devoted further extended space to readers' letters on the issue on the facing page.

It may be unwise for a journalist and non-accountant to award points in the dispute between Messrs Merritt and Sykes and Messrs Godley and Wood. It would seem, however, that Merritt and Sykes were striving rather too hard for journalistic and political impact in their original article in the *Financial Times* on September 30. Their formulation was that to tax stock appreciation in a time of inflation as if it were a trading profit was "a financial Domesday machine."

Their expression was extreme and almost unqualified; and certainly implied that there is a need for more radical and urgent action than was likely to emerge from the Accounting Standards Steering Committee, or the Government committee under Mr Francis Saundlands of the Commercial

Union, to alter the presenting accounting method for stocks.

Messrs Godley and Wood reacted with academic precision in *The Times* on November 1 to prove that this sweeping generalization need not always hold good. The Merritt-Sykes reply on November 7 contained, frankly some bluster, which chose to ignore the careful qualifications of the original Godley-Wood paper. It also contained a much more qualified and therefore more valid, statement of the original Domesday proposition.

The original contention was that stock appreciation has virtually nothing to do with profit and is therefore, in essence, ineffectual taxation. The November 7 formulation was that "There is in fact no necessary connection between increased asset values and future cash flows." With such a statement one would disagree and few would oppose the search for a new regime of inflation accounting.

What I would still dispute, however, is the claim that Messrs Merritt and Sykes have said anything worth being found. In particular, all they have said

is that inflation, by expanding the value of stocks and work in progress, increases the level of working capital required. The result is to reproduce all the symptoms of the "overtrading" syndrome, even though the volume of activity may be static, or even falling. Overdrafts begin to rise; bankers question lending limits; debt to equity ratios become unstable; cash cost and investment programme cutting exercises have to be instituted.

But inflation undermines the equity of a good deal more than just corporate taxation. It changes the impact of personal taxation and the distribution of wealth and income to a degree which no government would dare to contemplate directly. So far as the bulk of manufacturing industry is concerned, price controls are a far more pervasive Domesday machine than the taxing of stock appreciation.

For the character of price controls is that some cost increases can never be recovered and even allowable costs can only be passed on after an administrative time lag, which inflicts a running cash-flow wound.

The truth is that the proper treatment and taxation of stocks depends on the individual circumstances of each company. If there is one year of rapid inflation in a decade of comparative stability, it is more reasonable to treat the resulting appreciation as a windfall trading profit.

The impact of rapid and constant inflation, however, will depend on whether a company has cash or highly-gearred; has little or huge depreciation; has little or huge stocks. Inflation affects both sides of the balance sheet and the profit and loss account. Debts reduce in real terms just as stocks rise in money terms. T and interest payments are less of a drain in real terms when payment is delayed in short. The impact of inflation accounting is much more complex than a mere question of stock valuation. Healey may wish to help industry, Tuesday with its liquidity crisis, would be wrong, however, to try through any structural change in its tax system in a spirit of panic but it has been fully thought through.

Making a success of participation

A baffling feature of current economic policy is the complete absence of confidence in the ability to improve national productivity. Yet, most employees and managements know that they cannot consume more without producing more. Even so, they also know, from the three-day-week experience, that a great deal more could be produced by each individual. A substantial increase in productivity is one action that can solve most of our economic problems. Even so, they also know, from the three-day-week experience, that a great deal more could be produced by each individual. A substantial increase in productivity is one action that can solve most of our economic problems.

Perhaps disillusionment with the "three-day-week" approach to productivity is appropriate to a nation which has believed so fervently and has been so disappointed in a succession of remedies. The Anglo-American Productivity Teams, the European Productivity Agency work study, consultants, business schools, a plethora of management techniques and the computer. The productivity of the efforts to improve productivity has been abysmally low. The two attempts to relate pay to productivity have compounded the effect. The first, ably reported by the National Board for Prices and

Locomotion, had the defect that the rules and guide lines were so ill-defined that many of the policies of the Government have made it abundantly clear in recent months that they want to see more openness.

Whether accountants are ideally equipped to provide answers to social questions is another matter. To put the point more bluntly, someone is bound to ask whether it is right for the professional accountancy bodies to lay down mandatory standards which industry will have to follow when those standards do not confine themselves to the area in which accountants are acknowledged experts.

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participation, communication, sharing and enrichment (PCSE) for an individual and that an advance has to be made on all four fronts, simultaneously, to achieve success. This has been found from experience that sharing the financial benefits of increased productivity is essential to the long run unless there is a substantial and successful effort to improve participation and communication and to enrich jobs through providing opportunities for problem solving. Equally, it has been observed that quite large activities designed to improve participation and communication fail, in the absence of some arrangement to share the benefits and responsibilities resulting.

It has also become evident that it is essential to recognize that participation and communication involve, not only the nuts and bolts of information systems and structures but also human interactions. Hence, progress is not instantaneous, or a matter of putting things into place, but is organic, requiring people to help each other, and to understand how better to do it. In parallel with the improvement in PCSE, things should be organized to encourage people to behave responsibly and be self-motivated.

Correspondingly, externally imposed motivation should be removed. Thus, exclusive reliance on financial incentives and the insistence that changes in pay must be directly related to the measured contribution by the employees to changes in output or efficiency, is foreign to the whole concept of gaining productivity through participation and team work. It has the same validity as paying each member of a football team in relation to the number of goals they score.

Appropriate remoteness is achieved by relating the total employment cost of the organization to the total organization. Results speak louder than words and the practical application of these ideas has increased productivity by 30 per cent or more beyond what piecework had already achieved, and has generated positive attitudes and substantially reduced conflict. The degree of success has been in direct relation to the extent of genuine participation and communication engendered. Such is the conviction stemming from practical experience of this approach, that a group of industrialists have set up an added value study group, to exchange experiences and share understanding of the value of this approach with others. From such an accord...

Alan Thompson

Hugh Stephenson

Taking all things into account

IBM: a way of life with its own culture

The world of International Business Machines, like the wonderful world of Disney, arouses a mixture of horror and admiration, of love and hate, in those exposed to it. Non IBM computer folk have a clear impression of the singular style and impact of his brother IBM, but for those outside the industry the corporation might appear simply as a large and successful organization.

As a new book by Nancy Foy indicates, IBM is much more than that. For those who work for it, it is a way of life, a complete culture of its own. For those in the rest of the computer industry it is the dominant market force, setting de facto standards which it is perilous to ignore.

In an earlier official IBM biography, *Think*, by William Rodgers, the scene was set in these words: "A company that has become a dynamic empire, in which the qualifications for citizenship were defined by one man and enforced by an ever changing hierarchy of subordinate executives, was ruled for more than 40 years by a patriarchal boss, benevolent and tyrannical by turn, a man of great kindness with an intuitive business genius."

Thomas J. Watson was an executive bumptious, Rodgers continued. "A lacklusterly sentimental leader of granite will and a compulsive master of detail, who saw himself, his company and the world of business as a corporate holy trinity to be worshipped by the faithful under his divine right to reward fidelity, excite heroics and rehabilitate the doubtful."

He made IBM a kind of international state in which the quest for promotion and reward was institutionalized and in which the sovereign patriarch's index of manners, conduct and accomplishment was both a standard and an ideal.

It was a standard which, in the process of evolving from subordinates and employees a full measure of energy and total involvement in their work, simultaneously moulded them into the outlines of the organization man, town criteria of dubious merit, but which could not distinguish their own nonsense, their critical faculties

suppressed if not atrophied, their response to ambition, success, reward and greed so subtly hooded that it became the cutting edge of a dangerously conditioned human reflex."

Mrs Foy takes up the story, describing the consequences of Tom Watson's decision to slice the corporation in two. The United States domestic part he gave to Tom, junior, his elder son, while his younger son, Arthur (known as Dick) looked after the international side.

"IBM today is a corporation whose success has been built on sibling rivalry," Mrs Foy writes. "This rivalry is not so much between the two brothers as between their corporate entities—domestic and world wide. These two separate phenomena began to exhibit a creative tension in the 1950s, as the younger son built a wall around his portion of the company and the elder son respected it."

IBM World Trade Corporation, handling the overseas operations, was made of individual countries. The domestic operation in the United States was a monolith. "Somehow the Old Man and his sons welded them together in a workable fashion," Mrs Foy comments.

IBM is a world of flip charts, task forces, penalty boxes and Siberias. "To flip chart" and "to task force" are verbs. Penalty boxes are non-jobs given temporarily to those who offend against the culture. For more serious offences, Siberia is permanent punishment—a state of expulsion within the company in which the sinner has no mail, no attention, no hope.

The "A and C interview" is a mandatory regular feature of the IBM world. "A and C" stand for appraisal and counselling; a sort of career counselling between managers and their subordinates. In the 1970 recession IBM cut its United States staff to cut its work force by 14,000 people (or "excess resources", as the policy-making management review committee called them). To band the situation, the committee swung into what it called the "full attrite mode". This conflict between IBM

and the English language, only one of many which arise from the company's way of life. There are obvious conflicts between IBM's objectives (those of the countries in which it operates, and between behaviour imposed by the company and the freedom of individual.

Mrs Foy's book discusses these and other problems some detail. Since IBM does choose to tell outsiders in about what goes on inside, rather than let William Foyers do before he has had comments of former IBM employees.

The fact that IBM is profitable, paternalistic and union, the subject of anti-trust suits, and dominant in world computer markets is new. But *The IBM World* at some new light on how it got that way and indicates the path that IBM employees pay for corporation's success.

"IBM people tend to be people, Mrs Foy comments, kind who like their children, dogs, gardens fellow men. Certainly they're highly trained, and if it is a standard pattern which it then the standard is high. The profess a sober humility, the IBM humility tends to be rather arrogant than of people's.

Gone are the Watsonian of white shirts, evangelical works and company songs. It is a rather worrying classic advertisement on the back of the IBM book which the toes in it?" asks Mr Mymors of Croxford. No iron UK doesn't let journalists UK News.

Kenneth Ow

Business Diary in Europe • CPI, SAS and the Baron

A campaign to restore international business confidence in Portugal has been launched by the Confederation of Portuguese Industry, a fledgling CBI which was formed by liberal businessmen after the April 25 revolution.

The CBI's president, Antonio Vasco de Mello, head of one of the country's big steel companies, and two of his executive directors, were in Britain last weekend, trying to persuade business and government opinion that the economic and political situation in Portugal is not as bad as it seems from abroad.

Portugal, they say, is not on the verge of a Communist takeover; the prospects for trade with Portugal are even better than under the previous regime; and continued investment by western countries would best insure that western democracy takes root.

Britain, Portugal's largest trading partner, is the first port of call on a tour which will take in Europe, the United States and possibly some communist countries as well. They were in London for talks with the Department of Trade and Industry, the CBI and banks.

One of their tasks has been to persuade a consortium of British banks that Portugal is stable enough for them to go ahead with a 200,000,000 Euro-dollar loan which the consortium is considering making to banks in Portugal.

"Such a loan would help restore confidence in our banking system which could lead to the reopening of the Lisbon stock exchange, which has been closed since April," said Jose Morais

Cabral, CPI's executive director.

Another executive director, Miguel de Sitaú Monteiro said that Portugal would need to raise about \$600m soon if it was to finance the construction of several new steelmills, a petrochemical complex at Sines, south of Lisbon, and the expansion of ship repair and building facilities at Lisnave and Saneave.

Foreign investment has fallen sharply during the political uncertainty since April. He hopes now centre on the elections to form a constituent assembly, promised for March.

The CPI men said that inflation, which had been raging at over 3 per cent a month in Portugal, has now dropped to 1.7 per cent, one of the lowest rates in Europe.

Despite the post-revolutionary upheavals the value of Portugal's trade with Britain during the first eight months of this year was £40m higher than during the same period in 1973. Exports to Britain amounted to £155m, and imports to £130m, possibly because the new government has cut a lot of red tape.

Norway—in the autumn of next year.

Hagrup's background is in aircraft engineering, and it was as chief engineer that he joined SAS in 1946 after war years spent in Britain as a transport pilot and chief of engineering with the free Norwegian air force. He became the SAS vice president operating from 1955, vice president engineering in 1956, and chief executive in 1963.

Down-to-earth in the best Norwegian tradition, Hagrup wanted the IATA airlines on his election as their president that, "the glamorous days of the industry are long since over". Air transport, he said, was a business that produced a perishable commodity that could not be stockpiled.

During his year as IATA president, Hagrup, who takes over from Sir Geoffrey Roberts, chairman of Air New Zealand,

will have to juggle with immense problems for the industry, among them continued insolvency against a background of soaring fuel costs, deep disagreements over fares over the north Atlantic route and the start of negotiations over fares for travelling by Coocorde.

Proof that he knows his business has just come with SAS reporting a profit for 1973-74 of £7.5m. Hagrup is married with two children. He likes his hobbies as golf (12 handicap) and hunting.

Swiss haven

Baron Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza is so annoyed with the "leftist" policies of Holland's Social Democrat government that he is threatening to move the seat of his private heavy industrial empire to Switzerland.

Baron Thyssen-Bornemisza has already acquired Swiss citizenship, giving him dual nationality—Swiss and, curiously enough, not Dutch, but Hungarian. He is a member of the Thyssen-Rheinstahl group in West Germany.

Frans moves up

The change of chairman at Unilever cannot pass unmarked. Next year Mr Gerrit Klijstra, 62, present chairman of Unilever, stands down and Mr Frans van den Hoeven, 51, now member of the board responsible for the product group dealing with sundry foods and drinks, climbs into the top boardroom chair.

The story of Frans van den Hoeven is that of the office junior who worked his way to the top of what was then Van den Bergh and Jurgens at the time of his appointment to the board in 1970.

"Office junior is about the best position to occupy in order to learn how a firm really runs. It is the only position with a job you can't delegate to someone else."

He has described the main attribute of a manager as dynamism, energy, creativity, common sense, criticism and self-confidence combined with "a healthy dose of self-criticism, plus the ability to work with a team". A thoughtful man, with what the Dutch might call a feeling for English humour, he is inclined to bandy about a good book in the little free time he has.

LOCKWOODS FOODS

A profitable and progressive year

- Sellent points from the circulated statement of the Chairman, Mr. Philip B. Lockwood.
- The proposed ordinary dividend of 2.814p per share represents an increase of 5% over the previous year. A share option scheme is proposed.
- The improvement in sales of canned fruit and vegetables continued throughout the year and into the first months of this year. Whilst the general demand and supply situation is much healthier, inflation has been a major factor contributing to the Group sales increase of 28%.
- A recently installed plant for carbonated beverages will contribute to future turnover and diversification.
- The canned meat trade in the U.K. has not produced the improvement in sales we had hoped for and the outlook is still clouded. As opposed to canned meats our cooked meat business, Roberts & Sons (Curers) Ltd., has produced improved results.
- Our overseas operations continue to give better results.
- It would be unwise to predict the current year's outcome. Nevertheless I feel confident that, with our long experience in the canning industry, we have ability to remain profitable and progressive.

GROUP SUMMARY OF RESULTS		
	1974	1973
Profit before Taxation	£200	£200
Provision for Taxation	1,149	831
Profit after Taxation	545	345
Earnings per Ordinary Share	60s	48s
	10.98p	7.52p

Copies of the full Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, Lockwoods Foods Limited, Long Sutton, Spalding, Lincs. PE12 9EQ.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FINANCIAL NEWS

Continuous borrowing is not the answer... but accountants may be

High demand boosts Twinlock

Mr R. E. Artus writes Peter Jay's warning... order to demonstrate their position... Unfortunately, the model is simplified to the point where its relevance to the present situation disappears.

At this point in the argument one might revert to the starting point... Godley & Wood's analysis claims to be germane to this point and to constitute a defence of the appropriateness of traditional accounting definitions of profit.

From Mr G. H. D. Blount Sir, I have read with great interest Peter Jay's account... I may say so, any properly trained accountant knows that the answer is a clear "yes".

io a period of inflation will be matched by increased procurement costs, and the resulting gross profit will not be inflated... The Inland Revenue rules for valuing trading stocks allow for piece-meal valuation of either cost or market value or replacement value, whichever is the lowest.

By Our Financial Staff Having almost reached £1m last term with a leap of 43 per cent, Twinlock reports another record first-half trading with a pre-tax profit of 18 per cent to £395,000 out of turnover improved by 41 per cent to £6.83m.

new shares at 120p each, this being at a premium of about 30 per cent over the current market price... Linked with the deal is a new trading agreement between the two for a period of 13 years.

Assmann & Stockder GmbH has been formed to acquire and carry on refrigeration business of Assman & Stockder KG, which is changing its name and ceasing to act in this field.

From turnover improved from £1.9m to £2.4m British Electronic Controls boosted profits after tax by £41,000 to £95,000 in the year to July 31st.

Importance of net worth

From Professor P. J. D. Wiles Sir, Mr Jay (November 1) summarizes the argument for continuing to tax "profits" as a means of appreciation quite briefly, but his unnecessary awe of its proponents makes them a very tempting target.

From Miss J. L. Wilson and Dr N. Hannand Sir, Wynne Godley and Adrian Wood claim Merrit and Sykes are no good: They've totally misunderstood. In a period of rising inflation

Mr Messrs Godley and Wood seem to be thinking in terms of single companies facing single year rises, say in the price of a single raw material, during a period of stable prices.

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MANAGEMENT

Settling the matter of rights takes time and patience

to the most tranquil and least contentious, there might be some "Rule of Law" with letters. Of all the greats of social cohesion, the one most diminished by

The individual rights survive, somewhat fortified, the controls have gone. Legislative advantage for individuals depends a great deal on what these individuals know about their rights, and how far they are prepared to seek them.

even if the balance had been acceptable. Some people learn their rights very slowly, or consider the good news incredible, like the Scots miner in the poem:

Parliament dealing with any matter. We have had a certain number of simple questions recently about what the public thinks of trade union power (too great), management (not efficient enough) and other economic matters. But where respectable institutions start quarrelling, the status of all them is reinvigorated.

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company it knows w to an up

four years ago Reckitt began operated in many like a holding company, like under a host of companies as well as brand names its range of products from toiletries and food to

Mopp methods can often still be found. The man who had to fashion the division's corporate personality in such a fragmented market was Mr Peter Kneé, managing director, now 45 years old.

an industrial cleaning materials company named Floor Treatment was itself an amalgamation of a floor seal product organization and a cleaning machine company.

fold increase in labour effectiveness. Naturally Reckitt make the most of cases of dramatic improvement, but give current company attitudes on cleaning, the scope for savings of 10 to 15 per cent must be quite common.

One shot in the Reckitt locker has been the decision to go for the hotel, catering and pub sector—most busy cost between £4 and £10 a week to clean and there are around 120,000 of them in the United Kingdom.

Brokers' views

The success with which equities have withstood the slide in the gilt-edged market could not be held in many City hearts.

Weekly list of fixed interest stocks

Table with columns: Stock Name, Price, Yield, Dividend, etc. Includes titles like Alb. Wilson, All. Brew, etc.

Share Indices

Table with columns: Index Name, Value, Change, etc. Includes titles like The Times Share Index, Large Financial, etc.

Rosehaugh Company Limited

Notice is hereby given of the appointment of Lloyds Bank Limited as Registrar. All correspondence and documents for registration regarding the Share Register should in future be sent to: Lloyds Bank Limited, Registrar's Department, The Causeway, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex, BN12 6DA.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Judge ready for economic challenge

Orders received in the first quarter by the United Kingdom companies of Judge International, makers of housewares, were up 16 per cent and sales 24 per cent Mr Lloyd Ressler, chairman, writes in his review. Order books remain high, he says, but with the current economic trend it is impossible to say how long this situation will continue.

Spread will aid Caravans Int

The caravan industry is weathering the inflationary storm better than most manufacturers of high-value products, according to Mr Patrick Bell, deputy managing director of Caravans International, speaking at the International Caravan and Camping Exhibition in London.

Briefly

- ABRASIVES INT: Company has corrected interim dividend from 0.56p to 0.53p and expected total from 1.4p to 1.34p. LOCKWOOD FOODS: Mr Philip Lockwood, chairman, confident of group's ability to remain profitable. SIEMENS: Group ready to propose to buy share in Kraftwerk Union which Allgem. Elektr. Anlagen-Gesellschaft AEG-Telefunken are offering.

Bank Base Rates

Table listing bank base rates for various institutions including Barclays Bank, NFA, Hill Samuel, C. Hoare & Co., Lloyds Bank, Midland Bank, Nat Westminster, Shenley Trust, 20th Cent Bank, G. T. Whyte, and Williams & Glyn's.

Rosehaugh Tea (Holdings) Limited

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Euromarkets

notes in order to take advantage of the higher returns these offer. However, some underwriters say that investors are resisting coupon rates of less than 10 per cent. On Friday a 15 million Euro-denominated issue of Copanbank was offered at 99.25 bearing 10 per cent, to yield 10.21 per cent. Kredietbank Luxembourg said that subscription demand for the issue was proportionately the highest the bank had known for an ERM issue for three years. The next such issue will probably be 15 million ERM, seven-year offering for Oslo.

Medium term notes favoured

The Eurobond market continues to perform very well, according to AP-Dow Jones. Investors are shifting funds from short-term placements into medium-term Eurocurrency

Eurobond prices (yields and premiums)

Table with columns: Country, Issue, Price, Yield, Premium. Lists various Eurobond issues from countries like France, Germany, Italy, etc.

Commodities

Sugar producer forecasts £900 a ton

"Say folks, you ain't seen nothing yet!" Al Jolson was certainly not referring to the world sugar price but in spite of the huge rise recently a potential 100,000 tons and £50m for 300,000 tons. New mills have long term implications requiring some guarantee of outlet at remunerative prices. With the volatility of the sugar price this is not always possible. Consequently investment in a new complex has not been forthcoming without some substantial assistance from government concerned. In spite of all the financial worries Lounho is pushing ahead with various projects, in conjunction with governments, in Africa. A feasibility study in Sudan has been completed and 300,000 tonne scheme is being negotiated. If this is realized it will enable Sudan to become a net exporter instead of an importer as at present. In 1973 imports were estimated at 165,000 tonnes; consumption at 205,000 tonnes; production at 100,000, and stocks (at the end of the year) at 44,000 tonnes. Particularly promising areas for sugar expansion, Mr Fletcher said, are in Malawi and Swaziland but he did not think Mauritius had too much scope beyond possible improved and higher yielding strains. In Malawi, Lounho has embarked on a three year programme to raise output by 40,000 to 100,000 tonnes. All the increase may be exported for 1973 domestic consumption was only 38,000 tonnes. Feasibility studies have been submitted to the Dahomey government, covering 40,000 tonnes of refined sugar and also to the Ivory Coast government which would extend its production from the existing capacity of 40,000 to 100,000 tonnes. A difficulty in many of these areas are roads. Very few have tarmac and therefore are prone to heavy rains which can make it a problem to move the cane. For a company operating in Africa, like Lounho it is not simply a task of hiring labour

Business appointments

New marketing director for Mobil Oil in London

Mr William Hitchcock is to succeed Mr Michael A. McNamee as marketing director of Mobil Oil in London from January 1 and is to be proposed for election to the board of directors to become general manager of Mobil Lebanon and Mr James R. Smith will succeed Mr McNamee as retail general manager of Mobil Oil. Mr David T. Andrews has been made company secretary and chief accountant of MAN Concessionaires (GB). Mr W. R. Shaughnessy has been appointed director, chartering, in the marine transportation division of Gulf Oil Trading. Mr J. W. Jefferts becomes managing director of Tolensams Delivery Service and remains group operational director on the board of the holding company. Mr A. S. Hawkrige, managing director of James Car Oil Services, also joins the board of Tolensams holding company. Mr G. W. Ward, Mr I. J. C.

cent, to yield 10.64 per cent. Also DM15m of four-year notes were placed for Financierings Instituut for Industri Naudvaerf of Denmark, at 99.5 bearing 10.5 per cent, to yield 10.67 per cent. In the dollar sector of the Eurobond market, a \$15m option maturity offering of Canada Centrale de Conperation Economique was well oversubscribed when offered at par bearing 10.25 per cent. Scheduled for offering is a \$20m seven-year issue of Curacao Tokyo Holding NV, a subsidiary of the Bank of Tokyo. The syndicate manager, S. G. Warburg & Co, indicated that the coupon rate will be 10.25 per cent with a small discount on the offer price. The Bank of Tokyo has a 8.625 per cent Eurobond issue outstanding with 14 years left to run and this was quoted on Friday at 88 bid, to yield 10.34 per cent. The new issues will represent something of a test for the market, as several other Japanese issues are reported to be under preparation, AP-DJ

Sources said that after the French note issue is placed the next public offering will probably be a DM40m issue of City of Bergen notes through a syndicate led by Berliner Handelsgesellschaft - Frankfurter Bank. Among private Deutsche bank placements last week were a 30m five-year issue at par, bearing 10 per cent of Eurofima, the inter-governmental agency for financing railway cars. A DM10m five-year offering of Salzburger Elektrizitaetswerke at 99.5, bearing 10.5 per

Unit Trust Prices—change on the week

Large table with multiple columns: Unit Name, Price, Change, etc. Lists various unit trusts and their performance over the week.

Freight report

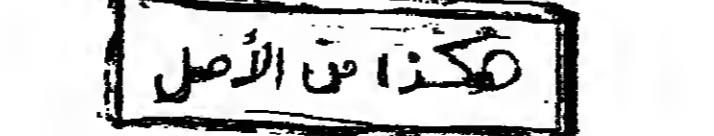
But on the brighter side amount of oil being transported throughout the world is considerable, despite the oil usage situation in western consuming countries. In addition, the number tankers being laid up is less than feared. Tanker tonnage laid up during October, according to the London tanker broker Clarksons & Co, was 53 vessels with a total deadweight of 1,788,025 tons, compared with 41 vessels of total deadweight of 1,334,205 in September.

Tanker rates jolt from BP

Predictions that the tanker market would get worse before it gets better, made some time ago by Galbraith Wrightson, leading London brokers, have so far proved correct. The market received a nasty jolt on Friday when BP fixed three very large crude carriers out of the Persian Gulf for Worldscale 40, and Exxon another for the same rate. Earlier an attempt to fix even lower at Worldscale 37.5 fell through at the last minute. This compares with the average rate of Worldscale 73.59 which prevailed in October for dirty vessels from the Persian Gulf to the west.

Offshore and International

Table listing offshore and international companies and their services, including various insurance and investment firms.



The Co-operative movement

كنا من الأصل

a Special Report



Left: Interior of a traditional London Co-op shop in Seven Kings, opened in the early 1940s. Right: London Co-op's largest market at Loughton, Essex, is typical of the society's development plans.

Bold reformers wake a sleeping giant

by Maurice Corina
Industrial Editor

Some day soon the Government will be calling in leaders of the Co-operative movement to discuss a little noticed election pledge to create a Co-operative Development Agency. It will channel public funds into selected parts of the Co-op, backing new projects as well as identifying modernization schemes suitable for state aid.

This is a significant change of mood. Not so many years back, Labour politicians were markedly cool, even embarrassed, over their long-standing alliance with the Co-op. There was more to admire in the management skills of Marks & Spencer or Tesco, and consumers, who are voters, had some vigorous criticisms to make of the rambling Co-operative empire.

What has happened in the intervening period is that those at the top of Co-op have been tackling the formidable job of reviving trading performance, changing attitudes and structure, doggedly trying to prove their critics wrong.

What looked like a dying giant was just asleep. It has been stirred into a combative posture by a determined band of reformers, who now occupy influential positions throughout the movement, and provide an aggressive leadership which their competitors now acknowledge as increasingly effective.

Thousands of dingy shops that were a disgrace to modern retailing have been scrubbed down or redeveloped. A uniform symbol has been introduced. Delivery fleets have shiny new livery. Dividend systems are transformed by Co-op trade stamps. Prices are keener and better national marketing drives the message home.

Mass mergers in the past six years have reduced the number of retail societies from 467 to under 240, and now the pressure is on to create 26 big regional societies which use resources to better advantage, including the already hard-pressed managements.

New trades, from deep freezer centres to off-licences and petrol retailing, have been invaded. The can- beer authorized and when internal morale had fallen.

the Co-operative Wholesale Society, has assumed new responsibilities after a period of ruthless self-examination which produced many factory closures or revisions of trading methods. Deals have been struck with private enterprise. Top men have been recruited from outside the movement to bring in new skills.

It is no hollow claim to say that the Co-op is now in markedly better shape. Indeed, recent speeches by some leaders have contained warnings to every society official and director not to become complacent, for there is much more to do if the share of national retail trade is to be expanded after the years of decline. That the slide has been halted is, nevertheless, a welcome confirmation that the Co-op, rather than resolutions, can yield results.

There is a new confidence, visible in many High Streets and wherever Co-op people gather. Once they planned each other. Now they talk animatedly about practical matters with an obvious conviction that the Co-op has come to terms with the needs of the contemporary consumer.

The Co-op is a mighty organization, so its problems have been bigger than anyone else's. The dimensions of the management problem were heart-breaking when High Street leadership in self service abetting was thrown away in the 1950s and trade handed to newcomers, such as the supermarketiers and well-organized chain stores.

The late Hugh Gaitskell and Mr Anthony Crosland, who urged action in an independent commission report, were ignored. Too many people could not believe such a giant might not be able to withstand the competition against which it had grown for a century or so.

Not until a joint reorganization report, put to shareholders by the CWS, did the movement make the threats to its survival seriously. And the task of reform has been doubly difficult because modernization is taking place when capital has become short not plentiful as was the case when changes ought to have been made. The can- beer authorized and when internal morale had fallen.

Economic circumstances of many local retail societies finally dictated transfers of engagements that ought to have been agreed years before. Jealousy guarded independence of the local board and its officials could not be assailed until the trading results slid by alarming rates.

As the central banker, and supplier of a large portion of stock, the CWS has given the badly needed leadership as well as practical support that retail societies are much closer to their communities, and a trend towards bigger regional societies threatens the traditional democratic dialogue between members and their management.

But what is encouraging is the one of the first regional societies, the North Eastern, which has turned numerous unprofitable small societies into a single successful organization, goes out of its way to ensure the shoppers' voice is not lost.

Unless such efforts are made, there seems little point in the Co-op fighting on for survival. The creation of a self-perpetuating management with reduced accountability as older activists die off is a soulless prospect. The Co-op grew big because of the interest and involvement of ordinary people. A bunch of amateurs in the boardrooms may seem incongruous these days, but the Co-op has not attained its massive spread of interests and an annual retail trade of £1,450m a year without owing something to the part-timers who serve on committees and maintain a surveillance over managers.

The Co-op activist has long been sceptical that nationalization is the only alternative to private enterprise. Their form of social ownership of assets has come about by voluntary competition in the market place, not by any Act of Parliament. Employees and customers do enter the boardrooms whatever the talk elsewhere in industry about the merits of participation. "No one owes us any favours", one official told me. "We believe in competition, even if the stimulation we give to others can hurt us."

Co-operative leaders are expected in the next year or so could present fresh anxieties. All this, and more, has added up to a preoccupation with finance and trade which bothers the ordinary members, a small percentage, who actively participate in the running of their local society. Busy officials often find the High Street been authorized and when internal morale had fallen.

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W ideas push bank towards top status

ing ago, the idea from the Co-op invading the City, to merchant banks seeking clearing as greeted with and sometimes Now, those who the Manchester- alence have been events to recog- real and increas- tive competition. s move by the Co- Bank into the Clearing House, eriod of rapid deve- is another impro- status.

anking, facts and count. The Co-op which seems an newcomer but has a history tracing working class penny is growing fast new-style marketog es and a new knowledge in its tent.

past six years the of current accounts ubled to more than and present turn- these alone runs at a year. In five Co-operative Com- Bank has built up more than £70m

and there is also a hire purchase subsidiary. F.C. Finance, one of the few public companies in which the Co-op has a substantial holding, ignoring the large investments of the Co-operative Insurance Society.

Both the insurance society and the main Co-op bank are subsidiaries of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, which also runs the Agricultural Finance Federation, within an empire spanning activities from farms to factories. Traditionally, the bank had been the main financier to retail cooperative societies, taking their deposits and lubricating trading operations in the High Street.

But the widening spread of accounts held today owes much to encouraging customers in Co-op shops to use the stores for banking, eventually steering them into new bank branches now opening round the country.

This strategy may be difficult for some to appreciate. Co-op staff are busy enough people without handling banking business. Yet the agency system has worked. Many people suspicious of conventional banking down barriers and some branches, believing them to

be unfriendly places, have obtained their first cheque book through the Co-op, which also paid a small amount of interest on current accounts.

For some years the Co-op has been something of a pioneer, publishing its charges well before anyone else and setting the pace no being developed to handle business accounts which just cannot be conducted through shops, where extra space cannot always be made available to improve agency services.

For its part, the Co-operative Insurance Society has long been in the big league of financial institutions. Premium income exceeds £130m a year and investments total a massive £720m. Its network of agents and offices cover the entire country and full-time agents call on one in every six homes in Britain. Although the share capital is nominally held by the CWS, the society is run on the principal that the entire surplus, after necessary provisions, is returned to policyholders (more than £28 million last year).

What is important about the bank and the insurance

now the big clearing banks are less complacent and more vigorous, growth could be harder to win.

To meet this, the Co-op is appointing more joint general managers with specialist functions and the overall aim of improving newer services. More branches are being developed to handle business accounts which just cannot be conducted through shops, where extra space cannot always be made available to improve agency services.

Not even the strait of rescuing the Scottish Co-op Bank, which became over-extended in the savings market, has stopped the relentless climb to clearing status. It is only three years since full banking status was obtained by ending the historic banking division structure operated by the parent CWS.

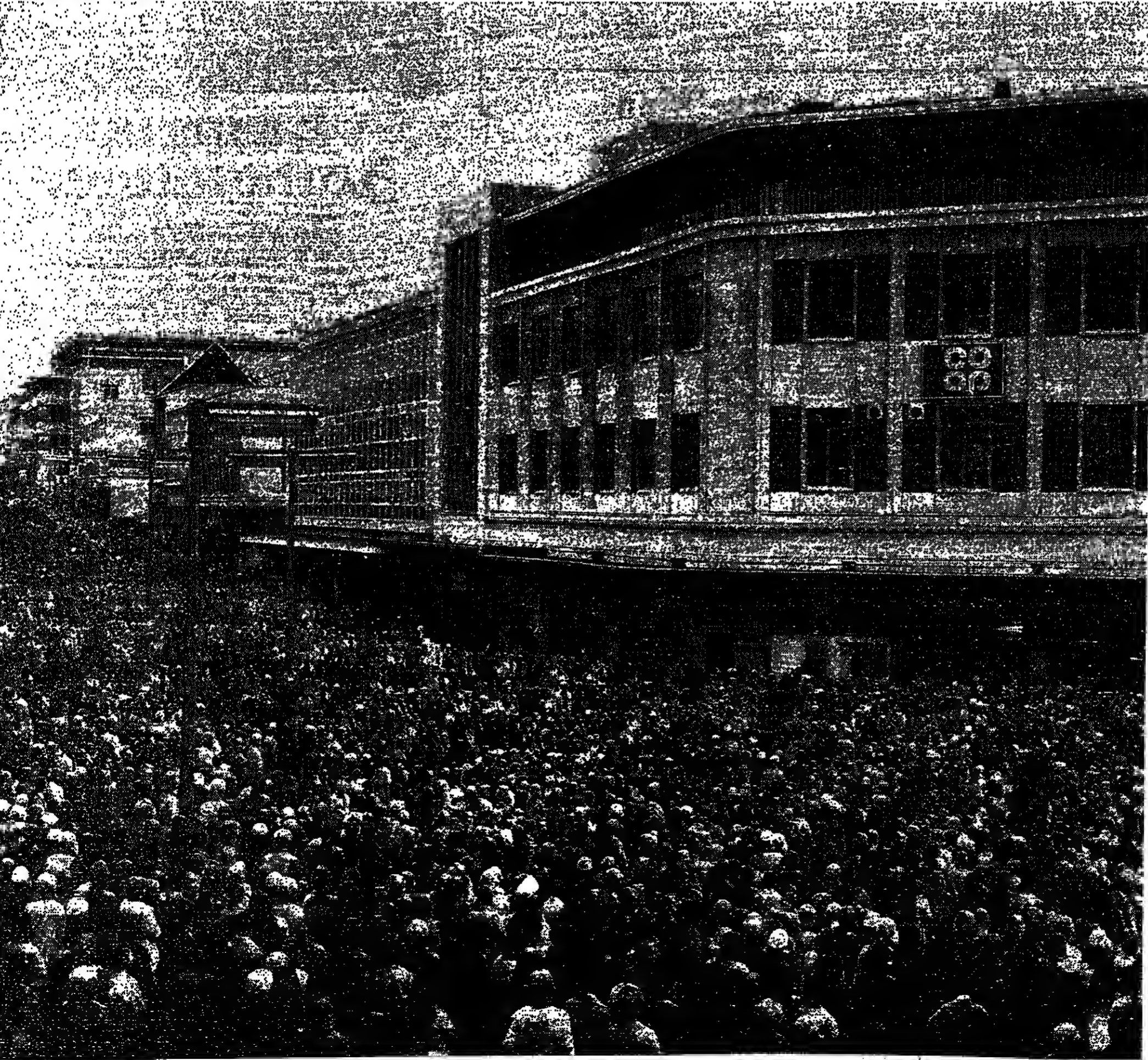
In an era of freer banking, more disclosure, and intensified competition, the Co-op has clearly made a contribution towards breaking down barriers and some restrictive practices. But

society is the considerable autonomy given to the management, which have displayed more professionalism than many retail societies in surviving against free enterprise. Their expert knowledge is being made increasingly available to the movement, and insurance and bank men now sit in on advisory committees dealing with retail finance problems. Both organizations refuse to be a cheap source of capital to the Co-op, indeed vast sums go to retail societies' competitors or rival CWS suppliers by way of investments.

None the less, retail societies are still proud of the growing institutions, which they see as powerful examples of consumer requirements and widening the base of cooperative activity beyond retailing. For its part, the CWS has two powerful instruments of influence in the wider business community, extending its contacts and proving certain management principles for application elsewhere in its operations.

M.C.

Half of all the housewives in Britain shop regularly at the Co-op



and that's not even half the story

The Co-op is Britain's biggest farmer. We are Britain's fastest growing bank. We have meat freezing plants in New Zealand, tea plantations on 2 continents, and one of Britain's biggest road transport fleets.

We make all kinds of things from shoes to biscuits. Take an early morning drive and you'll probably notice that the Co-op is Britain's biggest milkman. And while you're driving you can fill the car at Co-op garages.

The Co-op has the kind of comprehensive service that shoppers in the 70's and 80's will need. We also have the current success that's needed to build for the future. Last year Co-op turnover increased to a massive £1,450 million. And because the Co-op is owned by the people who shop there, they have a say in the way it's run, and they share in the profit. Last year some £25 million of Co-op profit was returned to shoppers.

So there's a lot more to the Co-op than that friendly High Street face. Participation, profit-sharing, and improving the quality of life.

The Co-op is traditionally dedicated to them all.

CO OP The Co-op - Britain's biggest retail business.

An announcement by the Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited, on behalf of the Co-operative Movement.

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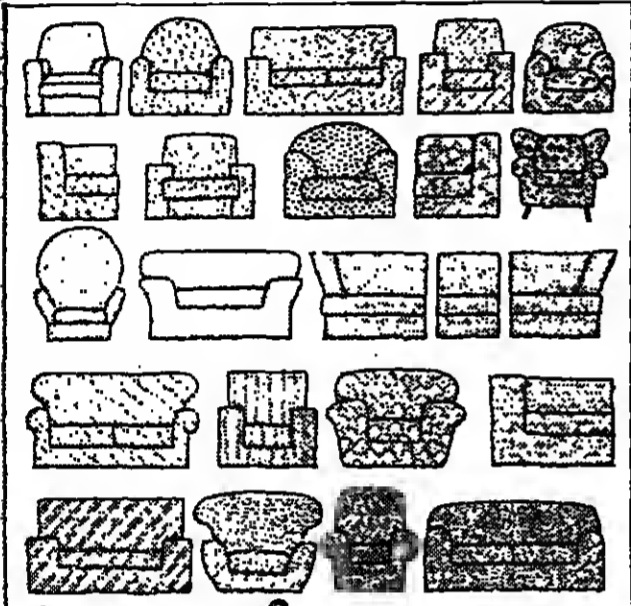
ALSO MISS MORVIC Special Budget Range.

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Mrs. Jean Webb, Sales Manageress 01-580 5956

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Customagic stretch covers. They're all at the Co-op now!



Customagic Stretchova Stretch Cover Centres in most Co-op stores.



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Makers of Witney Blankets since 1669.



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Simma Limited, 13/14 Woodstock Street, London W1R 2LP

The country's largest farmer

by Patricia Tisdall

The largest single supplier of goods to the Co-operative movement's 14,000 or so retail outlets is the Co-operative Wholesale Society. Founded in 1863, almost 20 years after the Rochdale Pioneers opened their first shop, the CWS (originally the North of England Co-operative Wholesale Industrial and Provident Society) was formed partly to counteract opposition from the private wholesalers of the day.

Its origins were also part of the general purpose of keeping prices down by returning profits to the customer in proportion to the amount of purchase made.

The CWS acts not only as a wholesale supplier of goods to the societies but also as a manufacturer and banker. Its first factory, for the manufacture of biscuits, was opened in 1873 and was followed quickly by footwear and soap, and a few years later by cocoa, clothing, flour and furniture factories.

Today, in addition to being the country's largest wholesaler (with 10 per cent of the total wholesale trade in the United Kingdom and 15 per cent of that in grocery and provisions), the CWS is manufacturer, farmer, overseas trader, banker, hotelier and travel agent.

It is the country's largest active farmer, with 15 estates totalling 37,000 acres. It owns dairy and beef herds in addition to cereals, fruit, potatoes, green vegetables. It has what are probably the largest greenhouses in the country, and has recently invested in new storage and distribution facilities for green-grocery products in London and the north Midlands.

For the annual supply of nearly four million gallons of milk it maintains dairies and creameries. Its dairy herds are the largest in the country, and it has maintained capital investment in them despite relatively poor returns in the long-term interests, it says, of its customers.

It not only supplies its own products, it also acts as a central buying agency for the societies, and buying depots are maintained abroad.

However, the retail societies are free to buy wherever they like, and many prefer to exercise their independence. It is estimated that they by-pass the wholesale society for 40 per cent of all their food and 20 per cent of their non-food requirements.

There have been efforts for many years to barrow the huge and sometimes clumsy power of the CWS with several hundred independent retail societies. The merger in June 1973 between it and its Scottish counterpart was described as a major advance.

Another far-reaching and much publicized proposal was that in 1968 when the Co-operative Union, representing the societies, announced

a plan for the creation of 55 large and powerful regional societies by amalgamations among the 467 societies then in existence. This has since been revised to 26 out of the present total of 243 societies.

A central feature of this reform was a network of regional computer-controlled warehouses. The first of these, at Birtley in Co Durham, was announced in April 1968, and was backed by a grant from the Minister of Technology at that time.

The plan was that the number of warehouses should be reduced from 250 to about 30. It was based on economies resulting from the reorganization of the warehousing facilities for individual retail societies.

The warehouses are operated under a contract assuring them of adequate support by retail societies. Charges are based on operating costs dependent upon the value of purchases.

Apart from a "reasonable" return on capital invested, no element of profit for the CWS was to be included in the operating costs of the warehouses.

The success of the idea therefore was dependent on the support of individual retail societies.

Some of the societies, notably the very large ones, were finding they could achieve maximum discounts by buying individually. They were reluctant to tie themselves to a CWS warehouse, and for this and other reasons the regional

network has not progressed as quickly as was originally expected.

There are five warehouses in operation, at Birtley, Longridge, Newport Pagnell, Swindon and Cardiff, and the location for a sixth is to be announced soon.

In addition to its massive buying and distribution activities, the wholesale society of the Co-op's marketing operations. During the late 1960s a plan known as "operation facilit" in a remarkably short time transformed the retail face of the Co-op.

The oow familiar blue and white symbol was introduced as a part of a modernization plan which cost more than £2m.

The modern image was carried through to packaging and labelling. This was probably the largest repackaging and design exercise ever undertaken by a wholesale organization, with less than three years 1,130 new packs were introduced, involving the conversion of the entire range of Co-op labels.

In the process the CWS cut out most of the old brands such as Wheatstreak, Waveney and Society. The standard practice now is to use the Co-op design on the label plus the product name only—though some names such as Friary cooking oil were retained for grading purposes.

The use of the symbol was also carried through to advertisements, stationery, overalls and transport, in addition to shop and factory

fronts and labels. Dividend stamps, also incorporating the new symbol, replaced the old "divi" system with shareholder books made up every six or 12 months according to the value of purchases.

All these changes went a long way to put into operation the recommendations of the joint reorganization committee set up in 1965 to study the movement's problems.

The committee included both wholesale and retail representatives. It advocated the replacement of the old over-the-counter principle, which meant that the CWS had to fight for the custom of retail shops like any outside wholesaler.

The new rule was that retail societies should buy all their requirements through the CWS unless they could obtain more favourable terms elsewhere. Any disputes that arose were to be referred to a specially appointed trade auditor.

The object of the exercise was to channel more of the immense buying potential of the Co-ops through the wholesale society, and to increase the proportion of total retailers' requirements invoiced through it.

The plan was, and still is, to join the wholesale and retail wings of the movement into a closely integrated body. This would make the CWS the sole supplier to retail societies, using its increased purchasing power to negotiate more favourable terms than would otherwise be obtainable.

A symbol that signals competition

by Clive Beddall

Northern news editor. The Grocer

The Co-operative movement pioneered its own brands a century ago when it built a biscuit factory at Crumpton, Manchester. It is only within the past decade that it has launched a consistent programme to project the "Co-op" name as a seal of approval on products ranging from instant coffee to electric underblankets.

The own label or "house brand" development was one of many innovations for the Co-op. The early years saw it making and supplying bicycles to the Post Office; and at one time there was even a Co-op label car.

Until the mid-1960s a string of house names—such as Wheatstreak, Waveney and Lokreel—became established with consumers. But the executives of the Co-operative Wholesale Society decided to best the name of the movement's stamp of quality, "Co-op," and familiar labels like Wheatstreak were phased out.

Last year, out of total retail food sales of about £1,000m, packaged foods with the Co-op label accounted for more than £160m. This year the figure could reach £250m.

The Co-op claims a greater degree of quality control than many competitor organizations could achieve. More than 75 per cent of the Co-op label food products sold last year were produced by CWS factories and processing units.

There are 150 of these plants, 100 of them concerned with food. In addition, plans have recently been announced for a new creamery in Wales and a tea factory at Crewe.

Mr. Peter Gray, the food division controller, points out that the use of the Co-op symbol—which is registered by the CWS—is governed by rules which have around the Whitehall houses and now feels that criteria can be framed to maintain a sense of equity.

ferently, the Co-op does not believe that British consumers are generally ready to accept the "own name" labels of Nottingham retailers on table wines and spirits.

The CWS has its own winery at Irlam, near Manchester, and uses exclusive house brands such as La Fontaine, Kremser Prinz and Benito for the wide range it supplies to Co-op off-licences. It should be noted, however, that the Co-op does not appear on bottled pale ale, brown ale and lager.

The strength of the Co-op label operation is seen in the fact that several of its products now command significant shares of national markets. Last year in packet tea (national market value £75m) the Co-op claimed a share of 15 per cent. This year's figure shows a rise to 17.2 per cent. In instant powder coffee (national market value £60m last year) the Co-op share was 4.9 per cent. This year the CWS says the figure is 5.8 per cent. Co-op margarine held a 6.5 per cent share of a £72m national market last year, and this year's figures show a rise to 6.9 per cent.

There is a continuing dialogue between the CWS and retail societies on the expansion of own label products. Mr. Gray points to the progress of recent years and says the Co-op symbol has developed into a seal of approval for most lines.

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From youth organizations to study and drama groups

by R. L. Marshall principal, Co-operative College.

Profession and practice are inescapably at variance in any organization composed of men and principles. Co-operatives certainly exhibit that human condition.

What should the 10,950,000 members (to 1972) of retail societies make of that discrepancy between protestation and performance? Should they react with the cynicism which is frequent and often just response to any such difference? Or should they see the difference as not only inevitable but as a sign of health and a spur to improvement?

I look on the question from a dual stance. I am a committed member, subscribing to Co-operative principles and reasonably capable, I think, of assessing honestly progress in their realization. I am also a paid servant of the Co-operative Union engaged in its educational work.

Does that second character disqualify me from useful engagement with the issue? I hope not. In fact, my professional work is especially concerned with identifying the gap between what is and what should be, and seeking to narrow it.

In strictly trading services our objective is to provide our members with the best quality, price and service available in the market. I do not claim that Co-operatives have achieved this perfection or, indeed, will ever do so universally.

But, in measuring what has been achieved, it should be noted that the annual retail sales were £2,290m. The range of services is long, varied and expanding and within these are outstanding achievements, not only in some societies but in some departments throughout the country. The range of services is long, varied and expanding and within these are outstanding achievements, not only in some societies but in some departments throughout the country.

Out of that operation emerged a distribution of dividend amounting to £24m. Societies are being reorganized into a pattern

of fewer and larger retail societies and of closer unity between them. The national federations to carry the reality still closer to the ideal.

In broader service we seek a leading role as the protector of the consumers' interests and teacher of the consumers' arts. This, I believe, is an area in which we can most clearly distinguish ourselves from other distributors, and again we have much more to do.

But our standards of honesty to goods and advertisement are high. We are in the throes of working out practice which will particularly assist the standards we offer to the consumer.

Some of our main stores are appointing consumer advisers—three have already done so. I have been specially involved with our annual National Consumer Conference, which is the largest consumer project in adult education and which, in association with other kindred organizations brings experience and views on consumer problems from local study groups for national debate and decision.

Our influence with consumer organizations grows and our pressure on behalf of consumers with government is maintained—particularly through the Co-operative Party and the Parliamentary Committee of the Co-operative Union.

We profess a positive involvement in more general educational services—that is, a people's movement for the betterment of our economic resources to broad objectives of community education. We have done so from our beginnings, when we took a leading part in pressures and provisions for literacy and basic education. Now these responsibilities have been preempted by the state, and Co-operatives have moved into other areas of provision. Specific grants by societies' predominantly for member education amounted to £380,499 and, when other forms of financial support are reckoned, the total must be approaching £500,000.

This helps to support a great variety of activity—youth organizations and guilds, choral and drama

groups, classes and societies and of closer unity between them. The national federations to carry the reality still closer to the ideal. The commitment of a standard and effective of the work. We need more resource for it above all, professional deal is already being done.

We offer membership opportunity of our society through a strictly democratic basis charged with final responsibility for large-scale prices. In addition, the pace of democratic leadership and in them a diffusion of responsibility valuable only to the individual member but to the community as a whole.

The proportion members involved where in these processes notoriously low and the still thousands so engaged and we are busy working party to a methods of improv supply and training candidates for this expert leadership.

Finally, we offer members participation enterprise of social ship democratic control equitable distribution benefits. This we will achieve effective aid of the Co-operative lead to the extension same principles to areas of the community. This appeal may only a small minority members and perhaps never reach many more is a mainspring for part of Co-operative and action.

So in all these aspects there is a practice, and differ. To be met with or support from me I believe the latter—cooler and more subtle reasons than my (and professional) tions.

* All figures are for



Facing up to the future.

"Of course we are proud of our achievements over the past 110 years but we are no longer satisfied with yesterday's retailing standards. We believe that people today want and deserve better shopping, better service, and household and leisure equipment unthinkable 10 years ago.

"Today, ordinary people have a clear idea of what is meant by the quality of life and are determined to get their fair share of it. If the consumer era means anything it means this.

"As the largest retail organisation in the East Midlands the Greater Nottingham Society is playing its part in providing shopping facilities to match the aspirations of people on the march."

From the address by Mr. Lloyd A. Harrison, Chief Executive Officer, on opening the Society's Broad Marsh Store, Nottingham, 31st October 1974.



Greater Nottingham Co-operative Society Ltd. 243 Darby Road, Lenton, Nottingham NG1 1QP.

When you make some of the most successful net curtains in Britain, it's good to know you have one of Britain's most successful retailers to sell them.

White Magic by Stiebel

كندا من الأصل

nization groups

Urgent need to fulfil a double role

Allen Secretary, Union-Distributive and Workers' article cannot do to indicate some of us that seem, from point of view, important in any analysis of Co-operative movement.

Years leading up to war and during a hereafter, the Co-operative movement as a bad a proud record setting, not only in industry sector but with industry as a

Advantages then have gone. The security of which a Co-operative could offer, conditions of labour, no longer an attraction on the market.

not to plead for the attraction of Co-operative employment—a return to conditions, but for the application of five principles—membership—modern earnings of the workers, which are closely related to those of all in industry, have left far behind earnings are not by workers in industry.

about the 1960s, it appeared to have steam. It sufficed to have economic and change, but unlike its principal failed to make the compensating decline in the movement of the national side, consistent for years, and the outcome—1970 but dramatic—£2.5m in result in a

wounding loss of trading strength and prestige.

It is 17 years since the independent commission reported on the problems it saw facing the Co-operative movement. In those years, credit must be given for the substantial efforts that have been made in the CWS and certain retail societies to remedy weaknesses. Many retail societies have merged into large regional units, better able to compete with private trade competition.

Despite these necessary changes, many of the problems facing the Co-operative movement in 1957 are still with us today. Indeed, the position of some small societies is now appreciably worse than it was 17 years ago, threatening jobs and job prospects.

ment fulfilling two major roles. First it should be a viable trading organization and challenge other forms of distribution by providing the highest standards of service to the consumer, while giving the best terms and conditions to employees.

Secondly, and beyond this, the Co-operative movement has always considered itself to have a responsibility for the social development of the community of which it forms a part. But the method of implementing this responsibility requires urgent consideration in order that the needs of the 1970s can be fully met.

The evidence suggests that neither of these objectives is being adequately met in the majority of societies.

Figures shown in the new earnings survey carried out each April reveal that men and women in the Co-operative movement are among the lowest paid in any sector of the British working population. Given that the low profitability of the Co-operative movement is directly connected with its structural weaknesses, it is quite unacceptable that employees should continue to be expected to sacrifice reasonable wages because of the short-sighted and dangerous policies of management.

For many years the Co-operative movement set an example to its private trade competitor in its relations with its employees. In pre-war years when Co-operative wage rates were substantially higher than those in the private trade, its employees considered themselves privileged to work for the movement.

Since the war considerable changes have been secured in fringe benefits. Wages during sickness were introduced in 1952, establishing 26 weeks' wages after 10 years' service on the accumulative principle.

There is still room for improvement in Co-operative pension schemes. But this can come about only by societies accepting, as employers generally have done, that a substantially greater proportion of the normal costs of providing pensions should be borne by the employee.

Although shortage of capital is probably the single most important problem facing a large number of societies, it is closely followed by the shortage of management skills. Time and time again this union has expressed its concern at the dearth of skilled manpower at all levels in the Co-operative movement. The problem is at its most acute in small societies.

For these the future is bleak. The danger is quite clear. The career structures, where they exist, are inadequate to reward ability by increased responsibility and enhanced wages. It is also open to question whether these units are capable of receding the situation.

The obvious internal structural weaknesses apart, the conduct of economic life, the social and environmental responsibilities, the demand for greater worker participation and growing determination of employees to challenge the assumptions on which management makes its decisions—all reinforce the view that there is little future for small independent societies within the Co-operative movement.

Undoubtedly there are in the movement potentially more of the resources than are at the command of the great multiple organizations and departmental stores. Surely it is the proper organization of these resources that should be the aim of all who are concerned with Co-operative development.

Major part to play in social ownership

The Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers (USDAW) can fairly claim to have in membership a substantial majority of employees employed by the Co-operative movement. There are, of course, other trade unions which have Co-operative employees in membership (ship) although it is no longer the dominant section in the membership figures.

It is not, however, just a question of USDAW's membership figures. What is much more important is the standard of living and working conditions of the employees the union represents. USDAW has always taken an active interest in the pattern of Co-operative employment because we recognize that the Co-operative movement ought to play a major role in the development and extension of social ownership in Britain.

The union has stated that it sees the Co-operative movement

Some surrender of local autonomy

It would seem that this organization cannot and will not be achieved fully without some surrender of local autonomy. This does not mean over-centralization, as the examples of some of the large retail organizations which have successfully combined central direction with devolution of responsibility show. The union would be the last to advocate any weakening of the democratic control inherent in the Co-operative movement.

In 1970 the union set down in its policy statement, *The Future Policy Development of the Co-operative Movement in the 1970s*, for the future. They include, *inter alia*, a decisive shift to powerful regional groupings; provision of strategically planned premises designed for growth benefits; the merger of retailing and marketing techniques; radical review of sources of capital.

The answer to these and many similar questions influence not only the prospects of higher wages and better fringe benefits for the members and improvement in management salary structures at all levels, but the future progress or further stagnation of Co-operative trading.

One single person or organization would claim to have ready-made perfect solutions, but there can be no doubt of the urgency of the task. Many present problems which now have to be solved have resulted from insufficient planning and the impact of postwar conditions on retailing.

A quiet revolution in non-food goods

by Malcolm Jefferies

Hoover together offered customers a common premium offer on Hoover appliances with a variable pricing policy around the country. At least it gave a common marketing platform for advertising.

Successful efforts between the two major organizations—described by both parties as being a "working partnership" to every respect—have produced a promotional package on nationally branded products at competitive prices. The package still includes the premium offer, but to that has been added national part exchange facilities, a consumer competition, a nationally advertised price, credit facilities and, in many cases, use of Co-op stamps.

The degree of success can be measured when Hoover admits to seeing its turnover rise fourfold in five years with the Co-op—and higher prices are estimated to account for only 30 per cent of that increase. Now Hoover, rather embarrassed, admits it has difficulty in keeping pace with all the orders.

One benefit for the manufacturer, according to the Hoover experience—has been the additional sales effort mounted by groups of local societies who tie up with the Hoover appliance firm to mount local campaigns to supplement the national efforts.

Where the Co-op does score is its ability to take advantage of local competitive opportunities because of the independence and specialist local knowledge of individual societies, while also reaping the benefit of national promotions. This combination gives a flexibility of approach which is seldom possible with other variety based retail chains.

The size of the Co-op operation has meant that the CWS and retail societies have secured two Hoover vacuum cleaners on an exclusive basis.

The early CWS policy of developing a close association with brand leaders like Rank Radio International, Electroflux and Hoover, for example, has brought benefits for all concerned: the Co-ops, the manufacturer and the consumer.

Major suppliers believe far more can still be done in terms of Co-op staff training, improved ticket and show card information, display, and—perhaps most interesting—with greater use of Co-op stamps, as a promotional tool.

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And, this year, recognition of the Bank's developing scope has resulted in successful negotiations to become a member of the Banker's Clearing House—a landmark in recent banking history.

It all adds up to one thing—the Co-operative Bank is a growing force in British banking.



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Tough man to tackle the hardest job

by Maurice Corina

During a dull, desultory Sunday afternoon in April, 1968, I was glancing through a provisional list of the victims in the previous day's horrifying Windlesham air crash in South West Africa. Suddenly, a name on the news agency tape stood out—Thomas P. M. Could it be? A rapid telephone call to Mr Harry Jennings, chairman of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, eventually yielded confirmation that the society's first chief executive had perished.

It was a stunning blow to the board, which had not long before appointed Mr Philip Thomas as an unprecedented (by Co-op standards) £17,000 a year to revamp CWS trading methods. Recruited by outside management consultants John Tysack, he was selected from a number of candidates, brought in from Garfield Weston's associated British Foods empire, when terms could not be agreed with the first choice, Mr Filmer Paradise, the American who subsequently went to British Leyland by way of Ford.

For some months, Mr Thomas had been using his unparalleled management power to move through the organisation like a whirlwind. A board of 50 directors had replaced the smaller full-time executive and they watched Mr Thomas close factories which a will.

Retail societies were exhorted to adopt new methods alongside the CWS reforms. The sprucing up of shops began. New deals were struck with suppliers. Directors' perks were stopped and more outsiders came in from private enterprise to enliven management.

Two deputies, who did not entirely share all the Thomas ideas and techniques, were Mr Alfred Wilson and Mr Arthur Sugden, both men with long CWS services. It was on their shoulders that the task of reforming the CWS and assuming national leadership fell when Thomas was killed.

Earlier this year, Mr Wilson, who became the new chief executive, retired amid a round of farewell dinners and effusive tributes. The Co-ops' reamer-gence as a more profitable movement more in tune with contemporary business conditions owes much to his determination to dispel the Co-op's tag that it was "the dying giant".

But Mr Wilson, the council schoolboy, is the first to admit that he owed much to the support of the man who

now succeeds him—Mr Arthur Sugden—in the hardest job in British industry. Reforms are nowhere near complete. The original ginger group which demanded a reorganised CWS has long realized that their plan for a strong profitable CWS was deficient.

Everything in the end depends on the efficiency of the re-organised societies, the CWS shareholders and customers of the factories and wholesale depots.

Mr Sugden perhaps faces the hardest task. The CWS may be in better shape. But all its planning and trading operations cannot yield their full potential unless the autonomous local and regional societies push on with modernization while loyally backing national buying schemes or services under CWS direction.

They have to be persuaded rather than cajoled into mergers into a more regional structure. Local buyers have to be converted to more central purchasing with support for national marketing and promotion.

So the character of the man in the hot seat over the next few critical years is crucial. Courteous, but tough when his mind is made up, Mr Sugden is a quiet professional.

He earned a big reputation by making useful profits out of Co-op margarine manufacture. More recently, he won a standing ovation for a thoughtful speech to the annual Co-operative Congress, a masterly analysis of the next change of direction for the CWS and the movement in serving 11 million customer-members.

As a regular outside observer of the Co-op, I am not an infrequent critic of some of its decisions. The leaders are sensitive after years of denigration, yet Mr Sugden is one of the few men to emerge at the top willing to accept that the Co-op is not the private world of a self-perpetuating management bureaucracy.

It is owned by its customers, who are entitled to know more about what goes on and have their criticisms count. All that Mr Sugden asks is that those who talk about dead flies in the window of the local Co-op branch should take a fairer view. Times have changed.

Sparkling new supermarkets—indeed hypermarkets—have sprung up. Prices are dropping. Co-ops are being transformed from profit distribution. It has invaded new trades from petrol retailing and frozen food centres to off-licensing and appliance discounting.

Managers have to be diplomats

Not a glamorous man to excite the management writers looking for hero figures in British business, Mr Sugden is the right choice, given the importance of Co-op traditions and a strong group of dominant people. He will dominate, but he says it "really will be best if no one actually thinks I am doing so". He says he is not paid for public persona but for professional ability.

The Co-op, as a democracy of shoppers and employees, asks more of its managers, who have to be diplomats and to believe in the underlying philosophy of profit sharing and consumer representation.

In committee rooms, Mr Sugden can cut through cant and irrelevant discussion without upsetting the participants. That is a vital quality in the Co-op, where so much persuasion is needed and opposition can quickly build up if cherished rights are not respected.

There is no magical formula for restoring the Co-ops pre-eminent position in British retailing. Mr Sugden emphasizes; just hard work and preserving the confidence of those around him. There are a host of problems on his desk.

The reform of Scottish operations, stock inflation, capital worries, retail society mergers, regional warehousing, further store modernization are some of them, not all under his direct influence given the autonomy of retail societies.

It is to Mr Sugden's credit that students of cooperative affairs should turn to understand the present popularity he enjoys. "I see no future or purpose for a movement which concentrates its aim exclusively upon the objective of competitive private enterprise".

A long time has passed since someone in management said that. The CWS

was not seeking to control the movement, he added, saying a long exposed nerve. Not a few retail society chief officials and directors resent CWS domination of national policy-making. Indeed Mr Sugden thoughtfully revealed ideas for scaling down CWS operations by creating specialist organizations to deal with individual trades and industries.

This challenges the historic concept of a separate CWS, with local societies enjoying a monopoly of cooperative retailing in their area.

Mr Sugden says that the societies might concentrate on the food trade and give off their other resources to the new chains deploying management talent nationally and in a more concentrated way. It preserves local participation by shoppers in retail societies, which can share national benefits from new chains.

Everyone is now waiting to see if Mr Sugden will seek to put his ideas into practice. The national plan for regional societies is not having an easy passage, so Mr Sugden may be bringing a welcome new dimension to future planning. For their part, retail societies are eager to know if he really means what he says, and then to be given sight of some harder proposals.

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ADVERTISING RATES HERE... To place an advertisement in any of these categories...

DEATHS... BROWN—On 8th Nov. after a long illness, Mrs. BROWN, nee...

DEATHS... POWER—On 10th November, 1974, Mrs. JILLIAN LEWIS...

PERSONAL COLUMNS... Also on page 27... ANNOUNCEMENTS... Notice to Classified Advertisers...

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... FARE BARGAIN... KENT'S THE PLACE... HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS...

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... JET TO THE WEST... ADVANCE BOOKING CHARTER...

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... FARE BARGAIN... KENT'S THE PLACE... HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS...

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... MOROCCAN HOLIDAYS FROM £42... EGYPTIAN HOLIDAYS FROM £135...

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... FARE BARGAIN... KENT'S THE PLACE... HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS...

FASHION AND BEAUTY... PURS BOUGHT, remodelled... DEAR MUM, You'll be glad to hear...

FASHION AND BEAUTY... PURS BOUGHT, remodelled... DEAR MUM, You'll be glad to hear...

BIRTHS... ENBAR—On November 7th, at 11.15 am, Mrs. ENBAR...

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MARRIAGES... BROCKWAY & CULBERTSON—On October 18th, at the Grosvenor Hotel...

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 13,839... 1 No. on speed at all but what speed appeal! (31).

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS... J. B. KENYON LTD. FUNERAL DIRECTORS... 45-47 Edgware Road, W.1.

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ACROSS... 1 No. on speed at all but what speed appeal! (31). 4 Fill up net order, with fish so numerous? (9).

ACROSS... 1 No. on speed at all but what speed appeal! (31). 4 Fill up net order, with fish so numerous? (9).

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15 SECRETARIES ARE STILL SEEKING JOBS... This advertisement was booked on our successful series plan (3 consecutive days with a 4th day free).